


PEKING
Sit Down Snack NIS 8
 Chinese Restaurants
 Glat Kasher Exclusive
 SHABAT BEGINS ENDS
 Jerusalem 4:34 p.m. 5:50 p.m.
 Tel Aviv 4:52 p.m. 5:52 p.m.
 Haifa 4:42 p.m. 5:49 p.m.
 Reservations:
 Jerusalem: 5 Shimon Ben Shimon St., Tel. 02-202920
 Tel Aviv: Nahal Avner, 13 Oppenheimer St., Tel. 02-421888


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Not so uniform
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Verdiger and 'Who's a Jew?'
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Thin line in Musrara
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Sports and medicine
 Page 6



Faisal Hussein - His father's son
 Magazine Page 5

Beirut snatchings overshadow coming election

Bonn ready to talk to kidnappers

Chancellor Helmut Kohl's government, three days shy of a national election, has been in contact with the purported kidnappers of a German businessman in Lebanon and is willing to negotiate with them to secure his release, officials said yesterday.

Kohl met with top officials yesterday to map strategy in the crisis now compounded by the reported kidnapping of a second West German businessman in Beirut. The kidnappings have been linked with the US request for the extradition from Germany of Mohammad Ali Hamadi, a Lebanese Shi'ite wanted in connection with the hijacking of a TWA airliner last year.

In Beirut, an official of the Druze militia handling security arrangements for Anglican church envoy Terry Waite said he had sent word

that he had been in contact with Shi'ite organizations who hold American hostages. Waite was last seen on Tuesday evening, leading to speculation that he too might have been abducted.

The self-proclaimed kidnappers of Rudolf Cordes, 53, who disappeared on Saturday, have given no sign that he is alive, German officials told the Associated Press.

But prosecutor Hans-Hermann Eckert in Frankfurt, where a court must approve of the U.S. extradition request said the process "could take weeks."

West Germany's ARD television said on Wednesday night that officials indicated Hamadi was unlikely to be extradited to the United States as long as Cordes was held in Lebanon.

A report by Sudwestfunk Radio of Baden-

Baden said that officials had decided "national interests" would take precedence over good relations with the United States.

German party leaders remained tight-lipped after a meeting with Kohl and senior ministers yesterday. Opposition Social Democratic Party (SPD) leader Hans-Jochen Vogel said after the meeting that he was against Bonn giving in to the kidnappers' demands.

A second West German, Alfred Schmidt, has been missing from his Beirut hotel since Tuesday, but the West German government has not heard from any kidnappers and is not sure whether he has actually been taken hostage, officials said. Lebanese officials say he has been kidnapped.

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 3)

Ex-bourse head gets the nod

Dr. Meir Heth to be named Leumi chief

By PINHAS LANDAU
 Post Finance Reporter

Dr. Meir Heth will be named the next chairman of Bank Leumi by Jewish Agency chairman Arye Dulzin at a press conference at 10 a.m. today.

Heth was the final choice of the five-man appointment committee set up by the council of Leumi's owners, the Jewish Colonial Trust. Heth himself has refused to confirm his appointment pending Dulzin's formal announcement.

The committee was established last week to find a new chairman and board for the bank in the wake of the scandal over pension and severance payments to former Leumi chairman Ernest Japhet, in the course of which Japhet's successor, Eli Hurwitz, and the entire board of directors submitted their resignations.

Heth was one of five candidates on a list presented by the bank of Israel for the committee's consideration.

Central bank sources last night expressed relief that the interregnum at Israel's best-known banking institution had been ended, but were at pains to stress that no one at the Bank of Israel had exerted any influence or pressure either for or against any of the candidates on the list. But it is known that Heth was favoured, at least privately, by both Governor Michael Bruno and Ex-aminer of banks Galia Maor, as well as by other officials.

Dulzin will hold the press conference after Heth's appointment has been confirmed by the full JCT council at a meeting scheduled for 9 a.m. Heth himself will not be



Dr. Meir Heth (Karen Ben-Zion)

present, and is unlikely to make any public statement until after he is formally voted in as chairman along with the other new board members, whose names will also be revealed by Dulzin.

(Continued on Page 17)

U.S. Jews deny O'Connor apology

By HAIM SHAPIRO
 Jerusalem Post Reporter

The American Jewish leaders who met with New York's John Cardinal O'Connor made "no apology" for their earlier critical statement, according to Malcolm Hoenlein, director of the Presidents Conference of Major American Jewish Organizations.

Hoenlein, who is visiting Israel to arrange for a March mission for the conference, was adamant in affirming that there had been "no apology and no dramatic reversal" of the statement the conference had issued last week regarding O'Connor's controversial visit to Israel and Jordan. The statement criticized O'Connor's sympathetic remarks on the Palestinian problem and his interpretation of the Holocaust.

"We regret any implication of a dramatic reversal of the policy stated in the statement of January 10.



Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, who was guest of the Air Force yesterday, in the cockpit of a Cobra helicopter-gunship. (IDF)

Levy fires top staff

Housing Minister David Levy last night fired his director-general and three other top ministry officials, Israel Radio reported.

The move follows the minister's intense embarrassment over the appointment of his longtime close aide, Avner Sarussi, to a top post in the government-owned Shikun Uf-tah housing company. Company staffers were urged to accept pay hikes as an inducement to swallow Sarussi's appointment.

Sacked along with ministry director-general Sasson Shilo last night were Yitzhak Regev, the minister's political adviser, David Mor, chairman of Shikun Uf-tah, and Shlomo Shatzner, director-general of the company.

There was no apology on any substantive matter," Hoenlein said in a prepared statement.

Hoenlein told The Jerusalem Post that there had been an apology concerning the timing of the statement, which was issued before O'Connor's return to the U.S. One reason for this, Hoenlein told The Post, was that the cardinal had returned on a Saturday and the conference was anxious that the statement be issued before Shabbat.

Hoenlein added that there remained "significant differences of opinion" between the cardinal and

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)

Peres asks Thatcher to intercede with Kremlin

By DAVID HOROVITZ
 LONDON. - Foreign Minister Shimon Peres yesterday asked British Premier Margaret Thatcher to play a pivotal role in bringing the Soviet Union to participate in an international conference on peace in the Middle East.

During a 90 minute conversation at No. 10 Downing Street, Peres made it clear that "open Soviet gates (to Jewish emigration) are more important than ambassadors," and asked Thatcher to pass this view on to the Soviets when she visits Moscow in late March.

Thatcher, Peres told reporters later, agreed to do so, and also promised to brief King Hussein shortly on Israel's attitude to the Soviet Union.

Peres would not say whether Israel would be prepared to drop its demand that the Soviets must establish diplomatic links with it before participating in a peace conference. But he hinted that if the Soviets make a significant change in their emigration policies, Israel will not let the matter of diplomatic links hold up the peace process.

Peres said he and the British premier had seen eye-to-eye on every matter they had discussed, including the composition of an international peace forum.

In a brief interview with The Jerusalem Post, Peres reiterated that he hoped "King Hussein would take a

step forward to prevent the peace process from losing its momentum."

Peres hoped that if all other pre-conditions for an international conference were met, "there would be sufficient pressure to allow a Palestinian delegation to be set up."

Peres would not be drawn on whether he expected to see an international conference or direct negotiations between Israel and the Arabs by the end of 1987. But he hoped there would be "agreement on the territories within the next five or 10 years."

Peres praised Thatcher for breaking off ties with Syria. He said that this had helped the fight against terrorism. He angrily denied, however, that Israeli arms supplies to Iran were a victory for the forces of terror, and stressed that the value of the arms supplied did not exceed \$5 million.

"Sometimes, when there are no military means to fight terror, one must use other means," he said. "We have to take the long-term view, and look to the Iran of tomorrow."

Peres, who met yesterday morning with Joint Israel Appeal leaders and later lunched at Israeli Ambassador Yehuda Avner's residence, reiterated that 10 points of agreement had been reached with Jordan over an international forum for peace negotiations.

Unifil gets IDF report on killing

Post Defence Reporter
 TEL AVIV. - Unifil's commander, Major-General Gustav Haglund, said yesterday that "overall" relations with Israel were good and expressed hope a new leaf would be turned. Haglund had earlier received the IDF's explanation of the events leading to the killing of an Irish member of his force a fortnight ago.

Haglund was, nevertheless, very critical of the South Lebanese Army, which, he maintained, was an Israeli auxiliary. He did not rule out the possibility that the IDF had fired very close to Unifil positions in several instances.

Haglund yesterday travelled to

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 6)

'Lavi test flights revealed problems'

Post Defence Reporter
 TEL AVIV. - The first test flights of the Lavi, though successful, uncovered "a number of difficulties," a new local publication, Sword reports.

The publication, appearing in Tel Aviv, did not say what these difficulties were. The military censors apparently deleted part of the story, which Sword left blank.

Concern for ties if Cairo hangs Israeli

By BENNY MORRIS
 Post Diplomatic Correspondent and agencies

Israel-Egyptian relations will be "severely damaged or strained" if convicted Israeli drug smuggler, Yosef Tahan, is executed in Cairo, senior sources said in Jerusalem yesterday.

The sources were reacting to a report from the Egyptian capital that the death sentence against Tahan, handed down by a Cairo court last February, has been upheld by the Court of Cassation (court of appeals). A council of Muslim theologians confirmed the sentence last year. By Egyptian law, the death sentence must still be approved by President Hosni Mubarak before it can be carried out.

The sources in Jerusalem said that public opinion in Israel would be "outraged" if an Israeli citizen were executed in Cairo for a drug offence. The sources said they believed "a way would be found to remit Tahan's sentence."

It was unclear last night whether Israel would try to intercede with Mubarak to reverse the sentence. But observers felt that if such intervention were attempted, it would be done very discreetly and carefully in order not to offend Egyptian sensibilities.

Tahan was arrested in Cairo airport in August 1985 in possession of over one kilogram of heroin. He said at his trial that he had intended to smuggle the drugs overland into Israel.

Kol Yisrael yesterday broadcast a report quoting Tahan's lawyer to the effect that the Court of Cassation's verdict would only be delivered tomorrow.

Strike could resume on Tuesday

Clean-up in hospitals as staff returns to work

By JUDY SIEGEL
 Post Science and Health Reporter

Government hospitals are expected to be cleaned up and resupplied by this evening, 24 hours after 10,000 administrative and maintenance workers returned to work, "against their will," under court-issued temporary restraining orders.

But the workers have issued an ultimatum that, unless their wages are equalized with those in Kupat Holim hospitals by Monday evening, they will strike again on Tuesday morning.

The four-day strike, which created havoc and a fertile field for infection among patients, ended after a four-hour stormy session of the national conference of the hospital workers at Wolfson Hospital in Holon. The conference finally voted 42-12 to obey the court orders.

Earlier in the day, many of the workers had been adamantly opposed to returning to work without explicit promises from the government that it would convene the Padeh Committee to discuss their wage demands.

A telegram from the chairman of the committee, Gilad Neuberger, promising to convene the five-man committee as soon as the strike ended, cooled some heads.

Considerable pressure to end the strike came from Prime Minister Shamir, who during a tour of an Air

Force base in the North stated that the strikers must obey the court order, and that this would be followed by negotiations.

Health Minister Shoshana Arbeli-Almosino, who supported the workers in their opposition to the Treasury's demand for restraining orders, called for an immediate return to the hospitals once the orders had been issued by the court.

When the conference majority finally voted for a return to work, they empowered the smaller national committee to call a new strike if their wage demands are not met. They claim that the difference between their salaries and those of their peers in Kupat Holim hospitals was as high as 50 per cent.

The workers praised the health minister for her support and indefatigability, and expressed their regret to the patients that the strike had caused "so much suffering."

The Padeh Committee, originally set up by the government in the early '70s with a mandate to ensure that wages of the government hospital workers were equalized with those in the Histadrut health fund's institutions, is now chaired by Neuberger, who is acting for the Civil Service Commission (there is no head of the commission at present). Other members are representatives of the Histadrut, the Treasury, the Health

(Continued on Page 2, Col. 1)

Communists poised to seize control of Labour Council in city

Labour may lose major political bastion in Nazareth

By DAVID RUDGE
 Jerusalem Post Reporter

NAZARETH. - One of the Alignment's last bastions of political power in this Arab city, the Nazareth Labour Council, may fall to the communist-led Democratic Front for Peace and Equality.

The DFPE (Hadash) believes it has a golden opportunity to seize the reins from the Labour-Mapam bloc, which has been in control since the council was established 22 years ago. It will mount its challenge at the first meeting of the council next Wednesday.

Such a victory would give the communist party a prestigious boost and increase its influence over the tens of thousands of workers in the city and surrounding areas, including Galilee. The Alignment, however, has been reluctant to relinquish control, despite losing its overall majority in the elections to the council in May 1985.

Since then, there has not been a full meeting of the council, at which the secretary and other

senior officials are elected, and the Labour Alignment's representatives have remained in office.

Nevertheless, it is by no means certain that the DFPE will be able to muster the necessary support to take over the council. It won nine of the 21 council seats in the elections, compared to eight for Labour, three for the Progressive List for Peace and one for Mapam. Previously Labour held 11 seats and the DFPE eight, with Mapam and Shinui having one seat each.

On paper, at least, the front needs the support of the PLP to break the Alignment's hold on the council - something it has failed to achieve until now.

Labour Council secretary Mohammed Abu Ahmed gave the inability of either of the two main blocs to form a coalition as the reason why the council meeting was postponed. Under Histadrut regulations, this should have taken place within 45 days of the elections.

Abu Ahmed warned that in the event of a stalemate at Wednesday's meeting, the His-

tadrut would appoint "the people it thought most suitable" to serve as senior officials pending new council elections within six months.

His counterpart, Suheil Diab, the DFPE leader on the Labour Council and secretary of the local branch of the communist party, was confident however that his side would be in control after Wednesday.

"The Nazareth Labour Council is the only one in the country not to have held a full council meeting since the Histadrut elections nearly two years ago," he said.

"We have fought hard, through all the channels open to us, to hold this meeting, and we intend to win when that day comes."

Meanwhile each side has accused the other of ignoring the problems of soaring unemployment in the city and its environs, where the dole queues are growing daily.

According to Diab, every fourth person among the working population is on the dole. "It was inconceivable that with such grave

THE DOW JONES.

HAS IT PEAKED?

Get the American viewpoint, in the Weekly Review: eight pages from the Sunday New York Times, free in every Monday's Jerusalem Post.

The best of American journalism, covering U.S. and world news, the economy, business, entertainment, theatre, the arts and book reviews, plus prominent columnists such as James Reston and William Safire, and the editorial page.

The New York Times

WEEKLY REVIEW

free with Monday's **THE JERUSALEM POST**



The weather at major Swissair destinations

	22.1.87	MIN.	C	F	MAX.	
AMSTERDAM	-2	27	3	37	Cloudy	
BRUSSELS	-4	25	2	36	Cloudy	
BIRMINGHAM	-1	21	32	89	Clear	
CHICAGO	-4	19	-2	28	Cloudy	
COPENHAGEN	-4	25	1	30	Cloudy	
FRANKFURT	-4	21	-5	23	Cloudy	
GENEVA	-4	22	-2	28	Cloudy	
HELSINKI	-8	18	-4	25	Cloudy	
HONG KONG	-1	16	19	66	Cloudy	
JERUSALEM	-1	16	24	75	Clear	
LONDON	-4	21	-5	23	Cloudy	
MADRID	-1	16	24	75	Clear	
MONTREAL	-13	-9	-5	23	Clear	
NEW YORK	-1	16	24	75	Clear	
PARIS	-4	21	-5	23	Cloudy	
RIO DE JANEIRO	-1	16	24	75	Clear	
SAO PAULO	-1	16	24	75	Clear	
TEHRAN	-1	16	24	75	Clear	
TOKYO	-1	16	24	75	Clear	
TORONTO	-1	16	24	75	Clear	
ZURICH	-4	21	-5	23	Cloudy	

* For the latest weather conditions contact Swissair.

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THE WEATHER

Forecast: Rain in the north and central part of country

Outlook for Shabbat: Same	Yesterday's	Humidity	Min-Max	Today's	Humidity	Min-Max
Jerusalem	78	9-10	8			
Golan	73	7-14	11			
Nahariya						
Safad	62	7-11	8			
Haifa Port		11-15	15			
Tiberias	50	10-20	16			
Nazareth	-11	10-16	13			
Afula	64	10-14	11			
Sharon	60	10-14	11			
Tel Aviv	64	14-17	16			
B-G Airport	61	12-17	16			
Jericho	76	8-18	16			
Gaza	66	15-18	16			
Beersheba	62	10-16	15			
Eilat	42	13-21	20			

SOCIAL & PERSONAL

The general manager of the Ports Authority, Shaul Rasiel, will be the guest speaker at the luncheon meeting of the Haifa Maritime and Economics Club in the Zion Hotel at 1 p.m. today. Table reservations by phone (04) 529813.

The National Federation of Israeli Journalists yesterday held a press conference in Tel Aviv on the occasion of the publication of the 47th Journalists' Yearbook.

Safad abortion girl dies

SAFAD (Itim). — Yael Shrik, 17, who died after being anesthetized for an abortion, was buried here yesterday. Over 1,500 people attended the funeral.

Yael died at 6 a.m. yesterday. An autopsy was performed at the Institute of Forensic Medicine at Abu Kabir, after her family agreed on condition that the burial take place immediately afterwards. The family hired a helicopter to bring the body back to Safad.

Yael was buried alongside her sister, Yaffa, who was murdered by her husband four years ago.

HOSPITALS

(Continued from Page One) Ministry and the hospital workers themselves.

Neuberger convened the committee at 5.30 p.m. yesterday at Sheba Hospital, and they began their discussions, which lasted for several hours. Members expressed the hope that their deliberations would prevent another strike.

MK Ran Cohen of the Citizens Rights Movement yesterday demanded that Neuberger be brought before a disciplinary board because he allegedly said 10 days ago that he would not allow the equalization of wages between the two sectors — in violation of the government mandate of over a decade ago.

Meanwhile, as workers returned to the hospitals, patients received their first hot meal in four days. Extra nurses were sent to help out the returning strikers. Public health nurses were sent by the Health Ministry to visit patients sent home from hospitals during the strike, to see if they needed to be hospitalized again.

In three months

A Luxury Retirement Home

will open in Rehavia, Jerusalem

Details from 05-775448, 6-9 p.m.

HOME AND FOREIGN NEWS

Assad to come under pressure in Kuwait

Search for Gulf War solution to dominate summit next week

By ELAINE FLETCHER
The Iran-Iraq war, raging 80 kilometres away, is expected to dominate discussions at the Islamic Summit that opens in Kuwait Monday.

The presence of Syrian president Hafez Assad, Iran's major Arab ally in the war, will provide other Arab states with an opportunity to apply new pressures for ending the war, observers say.

But Assad's presence could also intensify the diplomatic tug-of-war over the legitimacy of Egypt's peaceful relations with Israel.

The Jordanian media this week carried reports of a possible historic meeting between Egyptian president Hosni Mubarak and Assad — which would bring Egypt full circle in her reconciliation with the rest of the Arab world.

Jordanian diplomatic observers say that Assad's current domestic and economic weakness could prompt him to make such a dramatic move. But others believe such a meeting is highly unlikely in light of the constant barrage of anti-Egypt criticism unleashed by Damascus

over the past several days. "Syria will not be reconciled with capitulatory regimes in Egypt and Morocco," said the official Syrian daily *Tishrin* yesterday. "Any rapprochement with them is conditional on ending their reconciliatory policies towards Israel."

Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmed set the Gulf war theme of the summit yesterday. He called on Iran to accept peace calls in a pre-summit session with 41 Islamic Conference foreign ministers. The ministers convened in Kuwait yesterday to set the summit agenda.

"The principles of Islam make it imperative for us not to allow the continuation of this war," said the sheikh.

But Iran, poised at the outskirts of Iraq's second-largest city, Basra, said yesterday it would not be bound by any resolutions at the Islamic conference, which it is shunning. Diplomats in Cairo told Reuters that Mubarak may try to play on Arab fears of an Iranian victory to induce Arab states with which Cairo has had no official relations since it

signed its peace treaty with Israel in 1979 to resume those relations.

"The Egyptians may be able to cash in on the fear of Iran by the Arabs, especially those in the Gulf region, and get them closer to mother Egypt," said one diplomat.

Cairo diplomats say that as far as the Middle East problem is concerned, contacts on the fringes between leaders who rarely meet are likely to be more significant than summit resolutions.

"The important thing for the Egyptians is that they are there and this will provide Mubarak with the opportunity to have meetings at the highest level with other Arab rulers," a Cairo diplomat told Reuters.

Terrorism is another issue likely to rank high on the summit's agenda. Kuwaiti delegates have called for a strong statement on terrorism to emerge from the summit; they have a personal interest in seeing such a resolution adopted.

Pro-Iranian terrorist groups have repeatedly threatened conference participants. Overnight Wednesday, an artillery shell hit the Kuwaiti

island of Failaka, 30 kilometres east of the conference site.

Three mysterious fires also erupted simultaneously at Kuwait oil installations on Monday. A previously unknown group, the "Revolutionary Organization-Forces of Prophet Mohammed in Kuwait," claimed responsibility for the fires in a statement yesterday in Beirut.

In his opening remarks to foreign ministers yesterday, Sheikh Sabah lashed out at countries he said were "aiding terrorism in order to serve their selfish interests. We must recognize that terrorism is a phenomenon to reject and distinguish between it and peoples fighting for their independence," he said.

Officials say other agenda items will include the status of Jerusalem, the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, and the situation in Chad and Lebanon. "The outlook is for a series of competing controversies on every subject that will be raised," said one diplomatic source in Cairo. "But there will be an overriding desire to make some show of Islamic unity."

High Court now urged to refer Nakash extradition back to Sharir

By MENACHEM SHALEV
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Petitioners Shulamit Aloni and Dedi Zucker (Citizens Rights Movement MKs) yesterday withdrew their request that the High Court of Justice order William Nakash extradited to France. Instead, they asked the court to refer the matter back to Justice Minister Avraham Sharir.

In the fourth — and final — round of arguments before the High Court yesterday, the MKs' attorney, Avraham Gal, said that "new facts and considerations" had been revealed during the course of the hearing on Nakash, and that the MKs now believe that the High Court "should not step into the shoes of the justice minister."

Gal asked the court to "guide" Sharir about the "proper" consid-

erations that should determine a "renewed" decision on Nakash. On December 4, Sharir decided not to extradite Nakash to France, where he is wanted for the 1983 murder of an Arab in the town of Besancon.

Most of yesterday's hearing was devoted to arguments presented by Prof. Shimon Shitrit, who is representing 11 Hebrew University professors and who did not support Gal's request. Shitrit said that the dangers supposedly awaiting Nakash in a French jail, and the claims that Israeli prisoners had been murdered in France, had not been proven.

Shitrit said that Nakash, if released in Israel, would pose a danger to public safety, especially in light of his participation in a failed gold heist in March, 1985. Justice Menachem Elon asked Shitrit whether the pro-

fessors he represents would themselves be in such danger. To which Shitrit replied, referring to the recent State Comptroller's report on the universities, "Perhaps, if they are carrying gold bars on their way to sabbaticals abroad."

Referring to a ban on leaving the country imposed on Nakash by the Jerusalem Rabbinical Court, at the request of his wife, Rina, Supreme Court President Meir Shamgar asked sarcastically whether a similar order issued by a Moslem Court would also be valid in the case of religious terrorists expelled by the defence minister.

The court will hand down its decision at a later date. It may reject the petition, order Nakash's extradition or refer the matter back to Sharir.

Insults fly in Knesset Finance Committee

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Knesset Members are in a very combative mood. Yesterday Haim Ramon (Labour) and Yehoshua Matza (Likud) were busy trading insults — "idiots" and "disgusting hypocrites" were the mildest of them — only three days after Geula Cohen (Tehiya) and Charlie Biton (DFPE) came to blows.

It all started yesterday in the Knesset Finance Committee. The Alignment wants the committee to approve a NIS 260 million rescue package for the United Kibbutz Movement's settlements. The Likud members were only waiting for such an opportunity to lash out at the Labour Party, the Histadrut and kibbutzim.

When the discussion began, the Likud wanted to discuss the situation in the government hospitals. This could have delayed the discussion on the aid request. But committee chairman Avraham Shapira blocked this manoeuvre.

Herut members then showed a sudden concern for moshavim, saying they too, needed money. Development towns — names unspecified — also needed money, they said. Finally, West Bank settlements should get taxpayers' money. The discussion became heated. Matza said he was concerned about the committee's image. "You should be concerned about your own looks," Edna Solodar told Matza.

This exchange was only the prelude to the main Ramon-Matza event.

Ramon to Matza: "You are talking like a Fascist."

Matza to Ramon: "Your smile is disgusting. You are a liar, a hypocrite and a chicken."

Ramon to Matza: "You're an idiot."

CORRECTION

A careful review of the charges brought against Aharon Meir, former managing director of the United Mizrahi Bank, shows that he is not charged with embezzlement or with deriving personal gains or benefits of any kind. The charge sheet refers to alleged fraud and breach of trust, and not as reported in *The Jerusalem Post* recently.

NAHARIYA HOSPITAL. — The Strauss family, owners of the Strauss Dairy, pledged to raise \$250,000 to keep the Cardiological Institute open in the local hospital.

PM spurns appeal from U.K. Jews for parity with SA olim

By JENNI FRAZER

Prime Minister Shamir has rejected a plea from the British Zionist Federation that immigrants from the UK be granted the same mortgage concessions as South African newcomers.

The plea was made at a meeting in Jerusalem this week of 60 leaders of the BZF, its first in Israel. Shamir told them that the South Africans were a special case and the increased mortgage relief was designed to encourage their immigration.

Defence Minister Rabin delivered a hard-hitting speech on the opening evening of the conference, in which he condemned extremism from all sides. He would be as reluctant, he said, to have a Moslem institution in a Jewish area as he was to have an "extremist yeshiva" in an Arab area.

On Monday, the British delegates were addressed by Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein, a senior adviser from the Bank of Israel, and a panel of officials from the World Zionist Organization. They spent Tuesday examining some of the options on the West Bank.

Begin likens Jabotinsky to Moses, da Vinci

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Former premier Menachem Begin compares his mentor, Ze'ev Jabotinsky, with Moses, Aristotle, Maimonides and Leonardo da Vinci in his new forward to an English-language biography of the founder of the Revisionist Zionist movement.

Begin describes these men as rare exemplars of human versatility, people who apply themselves "to various fields of creation and excel in all of them."

The biography, written in the 1950s by the late Joseph Schechtman, has recently been reprinted in the U.S.

Tehiya decides no change at the top

Post political Correspondent

TEL AVIV. — A bare majority of the Tehiya's 400 council members last night passed a compromise proposal by party leader Prof. Yuval Ne'eman to resolve the feud between MKs Geula Cohen and Rafael Eitan.

The vote means that the present composition of the party's slate of candidates will be "frozen." Ne'eman will stay as the headliner, followed by Eitan, with Cohen in the number three slot. The next two slots are filled by Gush Emunim's

Gershon Shafat and Eliezer Waldman.

This formula was initially hotly opposed by Cohen, but as warmly endorsed by Eitan.

Yesterday, however, the two seemed to reverse roles, with Cohen stating that she would support the proposal for the sake of domestic peace, while Eitan changed his mind and opposed the compromise. Ne'eman threatened to resign unless the proposal was carried.

BONN

(Continued from Page One)

In Munich, Siemens electronics company spokesman Rudolf Paetling said Schmidt, a Siemens employee, was wearing only his pajamas and a leather jacket when he left the hotel accompanied by several men.

Government officials said they were unsure whether Cordes' kidnappers belong to Hizbullah, a radical Shi'ite Moslem group. "We are trying to establish who they are. We don't know if this is a family business, or whether they are members of Hizbullah, or what," another official said. Hamadi is believed to have several relatives in Lebanon.

The Bonn government on Thursday urged the approximate 200 West Germans in Lebanon to leave. "The government repeats the warning that West German citizens should not travel to Lebanon. The government has urged those Germans living in

Mac TA 81 Real 80

Maccabi keep slender final hopes alive

By DON GOULD

Post Basketball Reporter
TEL AVIV. — Maccabi Tel Aviv took a cliff hanger from Real Madrid 81-80 in a crucial European Cup basketball game at the Yad Eliahu sports palace here last night. With neither team ever able to gain more than a four-point lead throughout, it was left to captain Mickey Berkowitz to sink the winning shot from the right-hand corner just 17 seconds from the end of the game and keep alive Maccabi's slender hopes of making it to the May final.

Injuries affected both teams. With only five minutes on the clock, Doron Jamchee hurt his back and left the game. He was ably replaced by Greg Cornelius. Just before the half, Real Madrid's point guard Juan Corbalan sprained his ankle and 18-year-old Enrico Ruiz Paz went the rest of the route for Real Madrid.

Maccabi's Kevin Magee topped in 27 points, several from longrange, to lead the attack. Lee Johnson chipped in with 23 points, several key rebounds and a spectacular eight blocked shots. Berkowitz's game-winning hoop gave him a total of 20 for the night. Larry Spriggs with 27, and Brad Branson with 26, led Real Madrid.

'Why can't Judy visit' — Vanunu seeks court action

By MENACHEM SHALEV

Mordechai Vanunu's keeping the courts busy. Yesterday he petitioned the Jerusalem District Court to order prison authorities to allow his girlfriend, Judy Zimet, to visit him in prison and talk to him on the phone.

Last week, the district court ordered prison authorities to return his Walkman and books to him. This week Vanunu petitioned the High Court of Justice to order that "secret evidence" be made available to his counsel. His suit against Israel television concerning the broadcasting of his private diaries, is also in the works.

In a "prisoner's petition" submitted yesterday by his attorney, Annon Zichroni, Vanunu claims that the prison authorities did not have the authority to prevent Zimet's visit. He maintains that the refusal to permit the visit is "unreasonable" and that the prison could provide adequate safeguards to prevent a breach of state security.

Zimet arrived in Israel on January 15 after being told several weeks earlier that the security authorities had agreed, in principle, to allow her

to visit the former Dimona nuclear technician. But permission was withdrawn following the December 21 incident in which Vanunu flashed a message on his palm to reporters.

David Horowitz adds from London:

The next issue of *The Sunday Times* may carry a story giving the name, nationality, age and probable whereabouts of the woman known as "Cindy," who it thinks helped lure Vanunu out of the UK.

A source at the newspaper told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that reporters were working to establish exactly how Vanunu was brought from Britain to Israel after *The Sunday Times* published his detailed report on the "secrets of Israel's nuclear arsenal" last year.

"We are in an extremely delicate position, because we may have to go and give evidence at Vanunu's trial in Israel," the source said. "We won't be publishing anything until we have the facts 100 per cent right," he added, "and we certainly won't disclose Cindy's real name prematurely. That would give her a chance to disappear."

Tora recording among pirate cassettes seized in Gaza

By BRADLEY BURSTON, Jerusalem Post Reporter

GAZA. — Over 15,000 pirated cassettes, including a chanted version of the Tora portion of the week, were seized by police this week in a crackdown on Gaza's flourishing "music industry."

In a complex operation headed by Gaza police commander Moshe Azhari, detectives raided a store and a house that served as underground factories for pirated recordings. Four Gaza residents were arrested in the raid; two were suspected of having operated the duplicating equipment, the other two of having distributed the cassettes in the Tel Aviv area.

Alongside the confiscated recordings of prominent singers in the Arab world, police displayed cassettes of Israeli singers such as Ofra Haza, Haim Moshe, and "Hashem Tamid."

According to police spokesmen, the illegal recording operation grossed hundreds of thousands of dollars annually. Eight Israeli record companies have filed complaints against the alleged offenders.

UNIFIL

(Continued from Page One)

Northern Command headquarters in Eastern Galilee, where the commander, Aluf Yossi Peled, briefed him on the main points of the investigation into the January 10 incident at Barasht.

According to the IDF's account, the unit there believed it had spotted terrorists near the lit-up UN building and fired three tank shells at it. The shells destroyed the building and killed Corporal Dermot McLoughlin, who was inside.

At yesterday's hour-and-a-half meeting, Peled apologized for the attack and stressed it had been the result of a chain of mistakes. It was

not a question of lack of discipline, or premeditated attack, Israeli military sources said. Peled also informed Haggland of the disciplinary action taken against two senior officers in Southern Lebanon: a lieutenant colonel and a more senior officer were reprimanded.

After the meeting, Haggland told Israeli Radio reporter Alan Ben-Ami he had the impression that the IDF had done its best to investigate the matter "very thoroughly."

But he criticized the SLA for its increased attacks on UNIFIL. He reiterated the UN's position that the IDF is responsible for the SLA, because Israel has equipped it.

O'CONNOR

(Continued from Page One)

the Jewish leaders. These concerned Vatican policy towards Israel and O'Connor's references to a Palestinian homeland.

O'Connor was clearly taken aback. Hoenlein said, by the sharp Jewish reaction, especially among Holocaust survivors, to his belief that the Holocaust was the "gift of the Jewish People to the world."

The cardinal explained that the remark was based on the Catholic theology of suffering, saying that one had to work to avoid such suffering, but once it occurred one looked for its benefit. The best example, he told the Jewish leaders, was the suffering of Jesus.

Regarding Vatican policy towards Israel, O'Connor reiterated that he may not be in full agreement, but that as a "loyal prince of the Church," he must follow the official line.

As for the January 10 statement, Hoenlein pointed out that it was not a "censure" but had recognized the cardinal's efforts on behalf of Soviet Jewry and against anti-Semitism. The statement was issued before O'Connor's arrival as a "courtesy," to make him aware of Jewish feelings "so he wouldn't be hit by an unexpected barrage when he arrived."

Hoenlein also stressed that there was unanimity among all Jewish groups in backing the statement.

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a memorial service will be held at the Kfar Samir cemetery, Haifa, on Sunday, January 25, 1987 at 3:30 p.m.

Juanita Cohen and family

In deep sorrow, we announce the passing of

DOV STEIN

on Thursday, January 22, 1987 in Ashkelon, at the age of 84 years.

The Bereaved: Aura and Michael, Edna, Yigal, Shelly and Roni, and the family in Israel and in South Africa

With deep sorrow, we announce the passing of

Rabbi MORTY KRÖNENBERG

of Long Beach, New York, who passed away on January 21, 1987 (20 Tevet 5747).

Mourning by: Wife: Pearl

Children: Michael, and Sharon Krönenberg

Marcia, and Reuven Bar-Tov

Yaffa, and Larry Liebman

Shiva will be at 29/20 Ramot Aleph until January 29, 1987

Secret CIA-Teheran contacts continued

Shultz: Publicity didn't stop Irangate

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State George Shultz testified Wednesday that the CIA discussed arms-for-hostages deals with Iran even after publicizing about them and he got President Reagan's authority to stop it, congressional sources said yesterday.

"They said Shultz told the House Foreign Affairs Committee behind closed doors that after a meeting in Europe on December 6, he ordered the Central Intelligence Agency to halt the effort and was furious to learn it was not stopped."

"He went directly to the president and shut it down," a congressman "who heard Shultz' testimony said."

The congressman and other sources said the new effort was made after Reagan's earlier approval of U.S. arms sales to Iran became public last November and the president publicly announced there would be no further sales.

The sources said Shultz approved a meeting between U.S. and Iranian representatives in Europe, apparently London, on December 6 but was surprised to find the Iranians came armed with a new nine-point agenda calling once again for a swap of U.S. arms for release of American hostages in Lebanon.

The sources said Shultz told the congressmen that after the meeting, a State Department official ordered the CIA to halt the effort because of Reagan's public announcement that there would be no further U.S. arms sales to Iran — but Shultz found out later the CIA had continued, the sources said.

They said Shultz went to Reagan on December 16 and got authority from the president to cease the dealings.

"Basically Reagan authorized Shultz to do it," the congressman said.

A broadcast report, quoting un-

identified sources, said Shultz also told the committee he had discovered a document that outlined what apparently was the working plan for an arms-hostage swap after the dealings surfaced last November.

CBS News said the document was believed to have been written by the CIA and Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North, the National Security Council aide fired after his role in the affair became known.

The White House, which has continually said there was never any intention to trade arms for hostages, has claimed no knowledge of the document.

President Reagan, who has been publicly silent on his administration's Iran-Contra arms scandal for the last month, will speak Monday to his own commission looking into the role of the National Security Council in the sale of arms to Iran and the alleged transfer of profits to support Nicaragua's Contra rebels.

White House spokesman Larry Speakes said Reagan will answer the three-member panel's questions about what he knew of the covert arms sale operation after first being briefed on the matter by counsel.

Speakes also said the commission, led by former senator John Tower, will be given until February 19 to complete its work.

Shultz also told the congressional panel he had learned the former National Security Adviser John Poindexter tried to pressure Kuwait to release 17 Shiite Muslims in a swap with Iran, according to news reports.

Shultz disclosed that the Iranians, as late as last month, were still asking for arms from the U.S. and for the release of terrorists in Kuwait in exchange for American hostages seized in Lebanon, according to reports in yesterday's edition of *The New York Times* and *The Washington Post*.

Meanwhile, top White House officials have discussed what might be done if CIA director William Casey is not well enough to return to work, but no search for a successor is under way.

Casey, 73, has been hospitalized since his December 18 surgery for a brain tumour.

"It's the president's first hope that director Casey will recover and (he) hopes that he will be able to return to work," Speakes said. "Director Casey continues to be in the hospital. He continues to have treatment there, and there is no active search under way. In other words, we're not compiling a list of names."

Speakes denied a report that former senator Howard Baker had been offered the position. But he also said that chief of staff Donald Regan had a "general discussion" with Baker about the matter. (Reuters. AP)

100 civilians in Qom killed in Iraqi air raid

NICOSIA — Iran said yesterday 100 civilians were killed in Iraqi air raids on the holy city of Qom and pledged to "crush the enemy" in revenge.

But shortly after the announcement was made, Iraq reported its air force jets made new raids on five cities, including Qom, seat of Iran's spiritual hierarchy.

An Iraqi military spokesman told the state radio in Baghdad that the planes also hit the cities of Tabriz in the north, Isfahan in the south, Dezful and Broujerd in the west, in the pre-dawn air strikes.

The spokesman said all Iraqi warplanes returned safely to base after "destroying their targets."

But Teheran's official Islamic Republic News Agency monitored in Nicosia, said two Iraqi warplanes were shot down over the southern sector of the 1,180-km battlefield. It claimed 55 Iraqi planes have been downed since Iran launched its latest offensive, codenamed Karbala-5, against Iraq January 9.

An Iranian war spokesman also said yesterday that 25 Iraqi brigades

have been knocked out in the two-week offensive directed at the southern Iraqi port of Basra.

The spokesman told a news conference that Iran's Karbala-5 offensive aimed to "crush the war machine of the enemy."

"Once this is materialized, not only Basra but Baghdad too will be an easy target," Irna quoted him saying.

But Iran's big push toward Basra appears to have settled into a slow slog.

Foreign military analysts in Baghdad say that despite initial gains, Iran has made only minor territorial progress since it began its push toward Basra.

Three analysts said some Iranian units came within five kilometres of the city before they were pushed back.

However, on the main lines of fighting, through palm groves on the north side of the Shatt-al-Arab waterway, the Iranians remain closer to their own borders than to Basra. (AP, Reuters)

12 killed, 94 hurt in Manila clash

MANILA (AP) — Troops opened fire yesterday after thousands of leftists tried to push through security and march to President Corason Aquino's office to demand land reform. Hospitals confirmed 12 dead and 94 injured.

Government and Communist negotiators, later announced they were suspending peace talks indefinitely because of death threats against both sides by unidentified forces out to destabilize the Aquino administration.

A rebel official also said the shootings would make it difficult to continue talks. But the chief rebel negotiator, Satur Ocampo, said the Communist New People's Army would abide by the cease-fire that expires February 8.

Yesterday's events marked a potentially serious setback to Aquino's efforts for national reconciliation and stability. They occurred amid new fears of a right-wing coup against her 11-month-old government.

The shooting broke out after some 10,000 people, organized by the militant Movement of Philippine Farmers (KMP), tried to break through a phalanx of about 500 troops and riot police massed about 300 meters from the main gate to Aquino's office in Malacanang palace.

Marchers linked arms and pressed forward against the riot police, who shoved them back with their shields. The marchers then began pelting troops and police with stones.

Suddenly elite marines deployed behind the police started shooting. The troops fired tear gas and chased the protesters as they fled in panic.

It was the first time protesters have been fatally shot by security forces since Aquino took power last February. Troops fired over the heads of protesters last July 4 to break up a rally of ex-president Ferdinand Marcos supporters.

The KMP had said it would march on Malacanang regardless of security measures to demand the immediate distribution of land.



Pennsylvania state treasurer R. Budd Dwyer puts a gun in his mouth (left) and fires (right). Dwyer killed himself yesterday at a Harrisburg news conference where he had been expected to announce his resignation after facing up to 55 years in prison for his conviction on several counts of fraud, perjury and conspiracy to commit bribery. He pulled the revolver out of a Manila envelope after a long, rambling statement in which he proclaimed his innocence. (Reuters)

UK buying spy satellite, 'Statesman' says

LONDON (Reuters) — The British government is spending \$500 million (\$755 million) on its first spy satellite without having informed Parliament, the *New Statesman* magazine reported yesterday.

"It said the project, code-named 'Zircon', was approved in 1983 and is being built by British Aerospace and Geo-Marconi."

A spokeswoman for the Ministry of Defence told Reuters: "It's a communications project that is highly classified and because it is highly classified we don't discuss it."

The ministry has announced that Britain was planning to launch three SkyNet-4 military communications satellites over the next few years.

Pretoria seeks freeport to evade sanctions

LONDON — South Africa has been holding secret talks with officials of the Isle of Man, the British dependency in the Irish Sea, to use its freeport to evade international trade sanctions, *The Independent* reported yesterday.

The London newspaper said the South African government's Industrial Development Corp. wants to use

the freeport to import South African goods to the island, change labels, process food, and then re-export goods to European Community countries which have imposed sanctions in protest against apartheid.

In London, legislators of the Socialist opposition Labour Party demanded meeting with Home Secretary Douglas Hurd about the

report. In South Africa yesterday, soldiers and scores of police sealed off the streets around the Soweto home of black African National Congress guerrilla Roy Ngweni during his funeral.

Residents said it was one of the largest security operations recently seen in Soweto.

W. Germans to polls Sunday after quiet campaign

By WLADIMIR STRUMINSKI
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

BONN — The 44 million West Germans entitled to elect their next national parliament on Sunday have witnessed a quiet, lacklustre election campaign — and not just because there was more exciting news around or because of the freezing cold.

Although the parties did organize election rallies, decorate walls with their posters, occupy some prime time on television with election spots and place election ads in the printed

media, the citizenry never seemed to get excited about it all. Maybe it was because the outcome never was in real doubt.

All polls predict a safe victory of the ruling coalition of the Christian Democratic Union (CDU) of Chancellor Helmut Kohl, the Christian Social Union (CSU) of Bavaria's Prime Minister Franz-Josef Strauss, and the small Liberal Party over the left of centre Social Democratic party (SPD) and the leftist Greens.

The coalition is expected to poll at

least 52 per cent of the vote while the opposition may receive 45 per cent or slightly more.

The election campaign was not particularly aggressive — at least not between the two rival blocks. The Christian parties did sound their long-standing warning that the Social Democrats constituted a severe security, economic and political risk to the stability of West Germany, but there were no accusations of intentional treason. The Social Democrats accused the coalition of knowingly presenting an over-optimistic picture of the economic situation, but there was no class-struggle rhetoric. Anyway, many traditional Social Democratic voters feel uneasy about their party's leftist leaning, while many conservatives realize that the good overall economic situation is, to a large degree, not just a result of prudent government policies.

The more bitter in-fighting took place within the coalition on the one side and the SPD on the other. Thus, the conservative-national CSU has demanded a tough turn-about in Bonn's policy vis-à-vis the Soviet Union, which it considers much too

whimpy under the present leadership of the Liberal Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher. The CSU has accused Genscher — no light charge in conservative eyes — of a continuation of the "soft" détente policy practiced under the Social-Democratic/Liberal government which was in office until 1982 — and in which Genscher was also the foreign minister.

The CSU also heavily assaulted the Liberals for their opposition to the introduction of crown witnesses into the German legal system to facilitate the fight against terrorism. Strauss himself told the Liberals that they would share the responsibility for any future terrorist murders. The Liberals, however, seemed to enjoy this kind of publicity and lost no time in portraying themselves as the true guardians of civil liberty and political wisdom and as a necessary emergency-brake to the dangerous aspirations of the CSU.

These dogfights are, of course, quite unlikely to prevent both parties from sharing the political power in Bonn as long as the market will bear.

Within the SPD, that party's candidate for the chancellorship,

Johannes Rau, had to face much adverse publicity from party chairman and former chancellor Willy Brandt. Brandt was instrumental in puncturing Rau's — admittedly unrealistic — aim of achieving a Social Democratic majority in the election (they are now expected to poll some 36 per cent). Brandt, who intends to step down from his chairmanship in the near future, made it clear that, in his eyes, Rau was not the automatic heir to the job.

Many leading Social Democrats were clearly reluctant to personally support Rau's campaigning effort, while a potential contender for party leadership, the young (42), left-wing prime minister of the federal state of Saar, Oskar Lafontaine, seemed to be preparing for the leadership struggle after election day.

Contravening a long tradition of "future" being a visionary domain of left-wing political programmes, the coalition parties occupied this word during the recent German campaign. "CDU: The future" was the simple slogan of Kohl's party, while the Liberals told their usually affluent and economically active voters: "Future through performance."

'Zionist lobby' is blamed for cancellation of play

By DAVID HOROVITZ
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

LONDON — Jim Allen, author of the anti-Zionist play *Perdition* charged yesterday that a "Zionist lobby" had forced the Royal Court Theatre to cancel its production.

In an interview with *The Jerusalem Post*, Allen said he would meet with the cast today to begin searching for another theatre to stage the play.

"The manner in which *Perdition* was taken off was terrible," said Allen. "I feel like I've been through a war, against the likes of Martin Gilbert, Lord Weidenfeld and the Institute of Jewish Affairs."

The play, directed by Ken Loach, was to have opened at London's Royal Court this week, but was cancelled by the theatre's administration in deference to the feelings of the Jewish community here. A spokesman for the theatre told *The Post* yesterday that the actors were "very upset" by the decision to cancel the play. All the actors have produced a statement supporting

Perdition and denying that it is anti-Jewish.

Allen told *The Post* that his play "drew a picture out of historical facts."

While some media commentators lamented that the public would not now have the opportunity to judge the merits or otherwise of the play for itself, an editorial article in the *Daily Telegraph* summed up the more general reaction to the play's cancellation, saying that it would bring "a sigh of relief" from the vast majority of theatre-goers.

"The issue here," said the *Telegraph*, "is not artistic freedom, but the right to traverse the past and to slander a nation. The obvious fact that the Holocaust encouraged Jewish emigration from Europe to, among other places, Palestine appears to have been turned on its head in an attempt, based upon very dubious interpretations of documents and on anti-Zionist publicists, to show that Zionism was no less guilty of promoting genocide for its own purposes than National Socialism."

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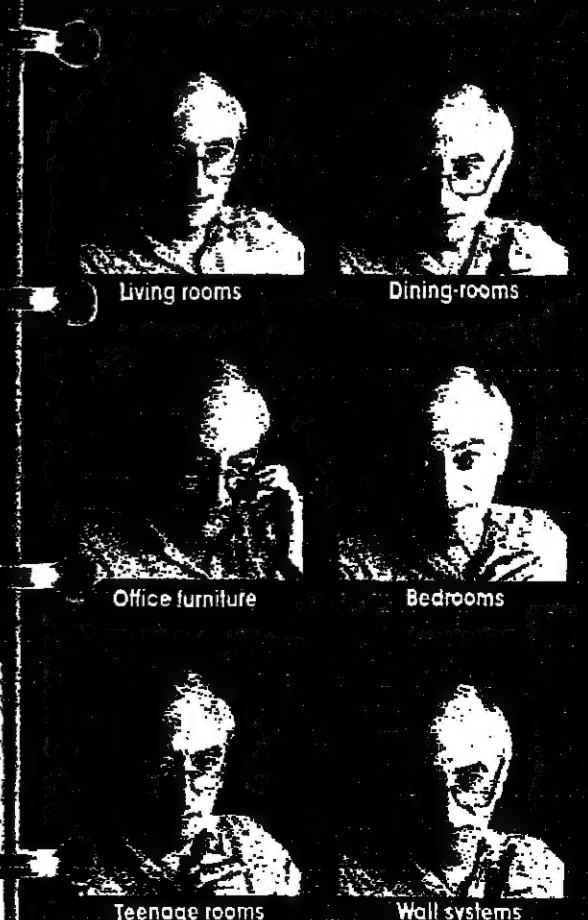
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KNESSET DEBATE OF THE WEEK

Problems of keeping meetings secret

By DVORAH GETZLER
"If the law supposes that," said Mr. Bumble... "the law is a ass - a idiot." *Oliver Twist*, by Charles Dickens.

Bumble's sentiments were echoed in the Knesset this week by both Amnon Linn (Alignment), initiator of a bill that would make criminals of journalists who publish secrets leaked from the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, and by party colleague David Libai, the main critic of what he termed a "superfluous" measure.

What the law lays down today - Linn pointed out in introducing the bill - is that all discussion in the closed committee is secret.

But that law is "a ass." For much of the committee's work is of a general nature, and in no way involves state secrets. It concerns the average citizen, and the citizen has a right to know, Linn argued. Moreover, the law is openly flouted. And the government uses that as an excuse to keep the committee uninformed.

His bill would empower a majority of committee members to declare

the proceedings of any meeting secret, and, here's the sting, would then prosecute any journalist publishing them. That provision, he said, was more realistic than the proposal in a similar bill (which the plenum later rejected) initiated by Tehiya's Rafael Eitan, who wanted to prosecute the committee member responsible for leaking.

One would never be able to find out who the culprit was, Linn declared, and journalists would not reveal their sources, and could not be expected to do so.

Shinui's Mordechai Virshubski seized on the double standards of lawyer Linn's bill. It would punish the journalists - whose work, MKs widely agreed, is quite properly to seek out information and pass it on to the public, and who are anyway subject to censorship - while letting off scot-free parliamentarians who abuse the trust placed in them. Since committee MKs sign an undertaking to keep its secrets, the bill also insults parliamentarians, Virshubski said. (He is not a member of the committee.)

Libai fastened on some other points: Why all this fuss about the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee? If the bills' sponsors were concerned about the inadequacy of the law, or the need to protect state secrets, then they should not confine themselves to that committee.

The Basic Law: The Knesset was fully adequate and there were equally adequate sanctions in Clause 113a of the Penal Code (1977). What would Eitan's and Linn's bills add? But MKs don't want the law implemented, for that would give the police the power to probe into their private lives.

A complaint of "leaking" lodged against an MK could set in motion a police inquiry, with the assistance of the Shin Bet (General Security Service), with phone taps and other concealed methods of probing. "And then we will be living in a state in which we will not be able to function... that's the real problem."

The problem is one of MKs' attitudes to leaks, and of the atmosphere in particular committees. Changing the law would change no-

thing, for the problem of implementing the law would remain, Libai said.

Shevah Weiss (Alignment) laughed both bills to scorn. The committee, he said firmly, did not leak any real secrets.

True, there were all sorts of reports of its proceedings: always excepting the real secrets. Some people reported everything to every journalist, some reported everything to some journalists, some reported to all journalists on some matters, some reported to a few journalists on a few matters, some even reported on their own - inflated - activities, or on their colleagues, or on their enemies. Virtually every member of the committee could be fitted into one of those categories.

But the committee was a political body and its members quite properly wanted to use it to put across their political philosophies, and wanted the public to know that they had done so.

In that sense the committee was no different from any other - apart from the mythology of secrecy surrounding it.

The committee was now trying to amend its procedures in a way that would meet Linn's apparent aims and he should wait for a final decision here before pressing ahead with the second and third readings of the bill, Weiss said.

Meanwhile, he counselled the ministers: Don't tell the entire committee those secrets that they should not know; but take care to report fully to the sub-committees, which even the government admits are "water-tight," because it is in the ministers' interest to share the weight of responsibility.

The Israeli press, which will soon face another bill that threatens its freedom while seeming to offer undue protection to those in high places, may take heart from this discussion. The freedom of the press has many champions in the Knesset.

The Israel Journalists' Association yesterday issued a public protest against recently proposed legislation that would undermine freedom of the press and the public's right to information.



President Herzog chats yesterday with three Sri Lankan soldiers whose legs were blown off by mines laid by Tamil separatists. They are being fitted with artificial limbs at Sheba Hospital, Tel Hashomer. Seen with the president is Prof. G. Samararatna, also of Sri Lanka, who is doing research on the Knesset as a visiting scholar at the Hebrew University's Truman Research Institute. (Isaac Harari)

Habad activist claims: '80,000 Jews registered as non-Jews'

By HAIM SHAPIRO
Jerusalem Post Reporter

While the religious parties continue to agonize over the possible registration as a Jew of one Reform convert, some 80,000 to 90,000 non-Jews are already listed as Jewish in the Population Registry and on their identity cards, one ultra-Orthodox activist claims.

According to Rabbi Shmuel Hefer of the Council for the Unity of the Jewish People, who made the estimate, the non-Jews have not only infiltrated the ranks of secular Israelis, but ultra-Orthodox circles as well.

"Since the Hazona B'shuva (return to religion) movement got underway, it has become impossible to tell who is a Jew, even among the ultra-Orthodox," Hefer told *The Jerusalem Post*.

He admitted that the ultra-Orthodox were particularly "care-

ful" when it came to marriage with someone who was newly observant. "But that isn't the case when it comes to the children of the newly observant," he added.

Hefer himself is the principal of the Comprehensive High School in Kfar Habad, which accepts only Jews. But more than once, he said, a pupil has come to him after years of attendance to confess that he or she is not a Jew according to Halacha.

In one case, he said, a girl told him only two days before she was about to be married to a Jewish boy that her family were Moslem Arabs. In another case, a girl whose parents came from Romania told him that her mother attended mass in the local Roman Catholic church every Sunday.

Hefer said that as long ago as 1974 he had submitted to the Knesset's Interior Committee a list of 3,000 names, "with addresses," of people

from Upper Nazareth who were falsely registered as Jews. At the time, he said, the matter was "hushed up" because then interior minister Yosef Burg "wanted to stay in office."

The non-Jews registered as Jews were not, he stressed, Reform or Conservative converts, or their children, over whom there might be a difference of opinion. They were children of non-Jewish mothers who had not converted. Most came from Eastern Europe and South America, he said. But there were also cases from the U.S. and as far away as India.

In response to Hefer's charges, the head of the Interior Ministry Population Registry, Yehoshua Cahana, admitted that there were indeed "some" non-Jews registered as Jews. But he was not prepared to comment on Hefer's figures.

"It is always possible to cheat a

system, especially one like ours where a person makes a declaration and we are obliged to take his word," Cahana said. Cahana added he was unaware of the list of 3,000 names from Upper Nazareth.

Shas circles tended to see Hefer's statements in the light of continuing friction between Shas and the Habad Hassidim.

Rabbi Yosef Shvirer, a political adviser to MK Yitzhak Peretz who only a fortnight ago resigned as interior minister rather than accept a High Court of Justice ruling to register Reform convert Shoshana Miller as a Jew, said that "we must fight the false registration of non-Jews as we must fight against all things that harm the Jewish people."

Last night Peretz and other Shas leaders were due to meet with Prime Minister Shamir in yet another attempt to keep Shas from leaving the coalition over the issue. Accord-

ing to Shas sources, Shamir had already told Peretz that MK Ronnie Milo had been mistaken when he said that the Miller case was a legal precedent that would require the registration of all other non-Orthodox converts as Jews.

Year's road toll - 415 dead

By JONATHAN KARP
TEL AVIV. - A total of 415 persons were killed and 20,789 were injured in 14,576 road accidents last year, the head of the Transport Ministry's Road Safety Administration said yesterday.

Eitan Ben-Yehoshua, quoting the Israel Police, said injuries rose by 13.3 per cent over the 18,709 registered in 1985, and accidents increased by 14.2 per cent, from 12,761 in the previous year. It was the first time in six years that these figures have risen, he stressed.

The number of fatalities in 1986 rose by 7.2 per cent over the 387 registered in 1985.

Fatalities on inter-urban roads decreased by 4.5 per cent, while those on urban roads jumped 24 per cent. Urban accidents, which rose by 15 per cent in 1986 over 1985, account for more than 80 per cent of all road deaths.

The police data showed 3,331 severe injuries and 17,458 light injuries, increases respectively of 8.7

and 14.4 per cent. Severe accidents totalled 2,594, up 9.9 per cent, and light accidents totalled 11,614 up 15.3 per cent.

Ben-Yehoshua estimated the total damage, at NIS 465 million.

Ben-Yehoshua said that one of the primary causes of the higher road toll was a cutback in safety activities by the various responsible agencies. This "slackness," as he put it, mainly resulted from insufficient budgets. He added that, because of administrative problems, "activity almost stopped" last year in his own Road Safety Administration.

Ben-Yehoshua was the third person to head the department in a single year, following the resignations of Moshe Amirav and Dan Holtzman.

Ben-Yehoshua called for the creation of a "national traffic police" and increased highway policing. "Since violations create accidents, I feel that if you deter people from breaking traffic regulations the outcome must be fewer accidents," he said.

Ben-Yehoshua also noted that low-

er petrol prices and the higher cost of public transportation in 1986 led to the increased use of private vehicles. He said Israel had the most congested roads in the world, with a total of 830,000 vehicles, up from 772,000 in 1985.

Ben-Yehoshua stressed that large investments must be made to improve the country's roads.

The Safety Administration, if given enough money, will launch several information campaigns. Its budget last year was NIS 15m.

The most important of these campaigns, that to encourage wearing seat-belts in cities, is due to begin on April 1. Transport Minister Haim Coru, who in the past has repeatedly opposed such a law, is now in favour.

Ben-Yehoshua painted a gloomy picture of vehicle maintenance. According to roadside inspections by his staff, safety problems were found in 96 per cent of the vehicles checked.

About 51 per cent, or 3,276 of the 6,389 vehicles inspected were ordered off the road immediately.

Stolen war stories in the sun

A between-movies actor sat at the café at the corner of Bograshov and Pines and told four acquaintances a Lebanese war story.

He told the story at that café because, for a few months, when he was in the army, he passed the café every morning and wished that he could sit in the sun drinking double espressos.

One night outside of Sidon, he began, two soldiers were on duty in a sandbagged bunker.

One of the soldiers, a week before his 19th birthday, decided that three o'clock in the morning was as good a time as any to begin smoking cigarettes.

"You smoke, don't you?" he asked his buddy.

"Yeh, but I left my pack in the tent. Besides, you don't smoke."

The night was being lit up by rockets and flares and all the pyrotechnics that armies can devise.

"No, but I figure now's as good a time as any other to start."

"Come on, it's three in the morning. Why do you want to start smoking at three o'clock in the morning?"

Occasionally, a mortar would fall a few hundred metres away, and the

quick flash would sometimes turn into a small brushfire.

"Why should you want to start at all?" said the soldier. "I just do. What do you care. Let me have a cigarette."

Well, said the between-movies actor, the almost 19-year-old was such a nudnik that his friend went to get the cigarettes.

But when he returned to the sandbagged bunker, said the actor, the bunker was gone.

A mortar had hit it.

Cigarettes saved his life, said the actor.

"That's an old story, it could have happened in any war," said one of the other people at the table, a between-movies technician who stopped at the café on his way to a meeting at Golan headquarters around the block.

"I heard it from a friend," said the actor, "who said it happened outside Sidon a few days after the war began. I think it's a stealer."

A stealer is a bit of Tel Aviv slang, and like most slang, its origins are only vaguely known.

Perhaps it comes from from Dori

Tel Aviv Tel Aviv
Robert Rosenberg

Ben-Ze'ev's song, "Thieves, thieves, they stole my heart," which lately, whenever there's a corruption scandal, becomes a kind of theme song for Army Radio discjockeys allowed to patter about the news.

Perhaps the origin of stealer, which in Hebrew is *magniv*, is in the air, like radio waves, unseen but heard.

The sun was strong on the sidewalk outside the café.

Around the table there were four other people:

A scriptgirl who had work to do held the script in her lap and held her head back, enjoying the sun; the between-movies technician; an unknown actress who had just come from a dentist's surgery and slurred her words; and the unknown actress's boyfriend.

There was silence for a few moments. A friend of the scriptgirl walked by.

"When did you find out about this corner?" the scriptgirl was asked by her friend, a woman wearing grey woolen tights, a large yellow knitted sweater that hung somewhere between her knees and her waist, and a large green bow in her bright red hair.

"Oh, a while ago," said the scriptgirl nonchalantly. "Isn't it a stealer?"

The girl in the tights and sweater said "ciao," and continued on her way.

The scriptgirl explained to the between-movies actor that the girl was a makeup artist.

"She wasn't wearing much makeup," said the actor.

"Pretty good, huh?" said the scriptgirl.

"A stealer," said the actor. The scriptgirl nodded, satisfied.

There was another long pause in the conversation. All four wore sunglasses, and all leaned backwards, letting the sun fall directly on their faces.

The boyfriend of the unknown actress asked her how she felt.

He had been at the surgery, like an expectant father, and when he finished explaining the details of the operation, the conversation turned for a while to stories about dental problems.

"This place is a stealer," said the actor, when the dental stories ran out of steam. "I start my mornings here."

On the radio playing inside the café, the beeps of the 11 a.m. news began. The hospital workers were still on strike, and the prime minister was visiting an Air Force base.

The between-movies actor began another story about the war. A soldier's family was informed that he had been killed, but he really hadn't been killed, and the mother fainted when the dead-but-really-alive soldier walked in the door and it was very difficult to convince the army bureaucracy that he was still alive.

"A stealer," said the boyfriend of the unknown actress.

"A stealer," said the scriptgirl. "I'm going to go now," said the between-movies actor.

"He's a stealer," said the between-movies technician, when the actor was across the street.

The two women nodded and leaned back in their chairs to feel the sun on their faces. The boyfriend read a newspaper.

"But the story about the dead soldier who was really alive was also an old story that could have happened in any war," said the technician.

The other three didn't say anything.

After a while, the technician left a couple of skeels for his coffee on the table and went to his meeting.

Keeping the finger off the trigger

By JOEL GREENBERG
Jerusalem Post Reporter

The killing of four Palestinian demonstrators by IDF troops during the recent wave of unrest in the territories led to charges from some quarters that Israeli soldiers in the area had become trigger-happy.

Military spokesmen responded that soldiers are bound by strict rules on when to open fire, and did so only when their lives were in danger, or when trying to apprehend fleeing suspects.

But the interpretation of orders on when to open fire is ultimately made by soldiers in the field. Their dilemma was demonstrated in a recent incident in a West Bank city, when a local youth scuffled with a reserve soldier he had surprised from behind. The youth was immediately wrestled to the ground by Border Police and hustled off. But the boy could just as easily have been shot by the nervous soldier.

The incident was similar to other sudden attacks on soldiers in West Bank cities, and the conversation that followed between the reservists involved and a senior officer revealed much about the psychology of soldiers in the territories.

A reconstruction of the incident included the following exchange:

Officer: Tell me what happened.

Reservist: The youth came from behind, clapped me on the shoulder and shouted. I whirled around, and he grabbed the barrel of my gun. I cocked the rifle and faced him, and he stood motionless with his hands up. Then the

other soldiers came. I think he was emotionally unstable, and didn't intend to seize my gun.

Officer: You should know that you are allowed to kill him in such a situation. According to the standing orders, if someone tries to grab your gun you can kill him. People would have even thanked you for it.

Reservist: It wasn't really necessary. I had my rifle cocked and pointed at him. He didn't move, and there were plenty of soldiers around. I really think he was a little crazy and didn't intend to grab the rifle.

Officer: I'm not blaming you for what you did, and other people around you could have been hit. You should know that you could have killed him.

Reservist: He wasn't armed.

Officer: It doesn't make a difference whether he was armed or not. In such a situation, don't think twice about opening fire.

A second reservist: I don't think it was necessary. He wasn't trying to grab his rifle.

Officer: Remember what I told you. The enemy is all around. We are surrounded by a hostile population.

A security man at the scene tried to reconstruct the incident again to ascertain whether the youth hadn't accidentally bumped into the soldier, as he claimed.

When the details were clarified, the group broke up. The officer issued last instructions to the patrol: "Remember, keep your guns strapped on."

Shopkeepers who had been watching from across the street went back to work. The reservists resumed their patrol. A fragile calm returned to the city.

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Topic: Tu B'shvat
Lecturer: Malka Bina - former dean of Bruria; mentor of K.C.C., lecturer at Jerusalem College for Adults.

For further information please contact
Yael 262305, 273810 between 12:00-5:00 p.m.

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31) Three evils are there which the world cannot bear, and no one knows why this comes about and the Holy One Blessed Be He leaves the world to its own devices. Now these are the three evils: the killing of one's own sons, the destruction of the King's palace, and the widdening of conception (a reference to the palace of the Almighty), and the rejection of the Holy Presence which then casts about throughout the world in search of rest. For all these doth the Holy Spirit weep, and for all these is the world judged. Woe to him who causes all this. Better for him had he not been born at all.

32) Fortunate is the people of Israel who, whilst in Egyptian exile, took heed not to transgress in the matter of female purity, the abomination from the contact with alien women and from the killing of one's sons. They did publicly show their commitment to increasing their progeny, and despite the decree to cast all their newborn sons into the Nile, yet was there not a one amongst them who did destroy an embryo, and most certainly not the newborn child. Because of this was the people of Israel redeemed from exile.

Contributions for assistance and continued efforts in this sphere, will be gladly accepted and should be sent to:

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FEATURES

How many stabbings can Jerusalem take?

Some fear further attacks by Arabs against Jews will rip the city's delicate fabric. Abraham Rabinovich reports.

THE EMPTY expanse of table tops in the courtyard of Ziti's Restaurant this week conjured up thoughts of Uzi Narkiss and the United Nations and long knives and Zayid Ben Shaker's brigade of Patton tanks.

Ziti's sits at the edge of the Musrara Quarter, its front gate lying on the border line that separated the city until 1967. The narrow street outside had been in no-man's-land and on its other side were Jordanian army blockhouses. Now, Arab labourers stand along the street, waiting with infinite patience for an Israeli contractor or trucker who might need some extra hands for the day.

The restaurant owner, sitting down with his one client, said that there had been virtually no business since the knifing last Saturday of the two brothers from Musrara inside Damascus Gate, 500 metres away.

"It used to be that such incidents would keep people away for a few days. Now it seems to keep them away for weeks."

Since last August, there have been eight stabbings in the Old City, creating a disturbing rhythm, where before violence had been random and widely spaced. The knifings themselves have merely pricked the fabric of co-existence in Jerusalem but the reactions they have begun to evoke in the "border" neighbourhoods on the Jewish side of the city have become a serious cause for concern among those charged with preserving the peace and wholeness of Jerusalem.

It was in this context that Uzi Narkiss came to mind. Twenty years ago, as commander of the Central

Front during the Six Day War, General Narkiss had seen the fate of Jerusalem hanging on whether Gen. Zayid Ben Shaker's brigade of tanks, ascending the road from Jericho, could be stopped before it reached Jerusalem and whether the Security Council in New York would order a halt in the fighting before Israel captured the Old City.

The fate of Jerusalem today - at the prosaic day-to-day level and perhaps beyond - seems to hang not on armies or international councils but on solitary Arab knife wielders skulking in the alleys of the Old City, and on working class and socially marginal elements in the Jewish neighbourhoods bordering former no-man's-land.

"If these stabbings continue," warned Victor Suissa, chairman of the Musrara Neighbourhood Committee, "extremists will rise among us and take over the government and the streets. If that happens, the Arab population will be the first to suffer. They will become refugees."

That assessment is viewed by the authorities as highly over-dramatic. "The government will never let this get out of hand," said a municipal official this week. "There were about as many police and other security personnel in Musrara after the stabbings as there are residents. They were there to prevent a recurrence of what happened at Shmuel Hanavi and they succeeded."

Shmuel Hanavi residents had responded to the murder of a neighbourhood youth in the Old City two months ago by rampaging through the Old City shouting "Death to Arabs" under the eyes of a police force whose embarrassed leadership



hesitated to use force against mourners, even though nationalist and extremist elements were clearly exploiting the situation.

ALTHOUGH the police have evidently adopted a more forceful stance, the relatively mild reaction of Musrara this week was due largely to Suissa and his committee members who issued a statement within hours of the stabbings calling for restraint. "It is the object of our enemies to provoke escalation," declared the statement. "We will not play into their hands."

In an interview, Suissa acknowledged calls at the UN following the Shmuel Hanavi riots for some form of internationalization of Jerusalem.

"We've got to kill all the Arabs," says a youth without hesitation, his face devoid of anger.

luded that the restraining influence of the neighbourhood committee could continue to be effective only up to a point. "We can persuade them once, twice, three times, maybe four. But if this keeps up, local leaders will lose control."

His advocacy of restraint was motivated in part, he said, by "an international perspective" in the "We also don't want our young people to get involved in these kinds of pogroms."

The Casablanca-born Suissa had worked as a security guard at Hebrew University before retiring and has moved politically from Labour to Likud and back to Labour. He has lived in Musrara 29 years. Like its other residents, he had remained there during the Six Day War when the neighbourhood was heavily shelled and battles were being waged a few hundred yards away. Today, he says, he and his neighbours enjoy friendly relations with the nearby

Arab merchants. "I understand the Arabs' nationalist feelings but they have to understand that they will never defeat us in battle and that we are fated to live together."

There is an ambivalence among Musrara residents towards Arabs, compounded of the Moroccan origin of most residents and the neighbourhood's location that puts it in closer contact with the Arab city than any other Jewish neighbourhood. On a day-to-day level, Musrara's Jews and Arabs in the adjacent area live their lives peacefully in close proximity and seek each other out for business and services. In times of tension, however, the blood of Musrara's youths quickly rises and Arabs passing through the neighbourhood

risk unpleasantness. Several were beaten following last Saturday's stabbings.

Two Musrara youths were stopped by this reporter this week at the edge of the neighbourhood where the Jewish homes on Rehov Hanavi give way to a field where Arab drivers wait beside their pickup trucks for Jewish customers wishing to hire their services. What was the youths' reaction to the knifings?

"We've got to kill all the Arabs," said the younger without hesitation, his face devoid of anger or any other expression. He was standing within five metres of an Arab driver when he said that but did not seem to relate to him.

The other youth, unshaven and wearing a black beret, was asked whether he also believed the solution was to kill the Arabs. "We just say these things," he said. "We never do them. We don't have any alternative except to live with them."

At City Hall adjacent to Musrara, Teddy Kollek was emerging at dusk - the last man out as he had been the first man in that morning at 6:30.

"What's going to be?" he was asked. "How much restraint can be demanded of the residents of Musrara? How many more stabbings before the whole fabric in the city begins to rip?"

The mayor leaned against the roof of his car as Nahum, his driver, waited patiently at the wheel. "We've got to learn to live with this," said Kollek. "This is our Via Dolorosa. If it happens again, we will just go on, and likewise if it keeps happening after that. That is the way we will conquer the city."

The mayor repeated the last phrase again, as if measuring the slogan against the reality. He said it a third time. "That is the way we will conquer the city."

Twenty years after the Six Day War, then, the battle for Jerusalem goes on, ultimate victory depending not on firepower but on restraint.

Knock-about political farce

Public Faces/Mark Segal

ISRAEL'S political extremes crossed a threshold this week, with an unprecedented fracas between the ultra-right and ultra-left in the Knesset's precincts. Democratic Front Charlie Biton, topped his recent assault on a radio reporter, by taking on Tehiya's Geula Cohen, who lived up to her reputation as "La Pasionara of the national camp," by acting out a *No pasaran* performance near the MKs' dining room's tea-trolley, against a visiting Soviet delegation.

Biton must be in dire straits politically, if he thinks such repeated violence will dissuade the DEFE's real boss MK Tzvi Tzvi from dumping him from his next election list. If it wasn't such a serious matter, it would be good material for a farce.

Let's hope that a majority of MKs will, for once, act speedily to empower Knesset Speaker Shlomo Hillel to exclude extra-parliamentary hooliganism from our parliament. Wonder what effect it had on the visiting schoolchildren's perception of "democracy in action?"

Anyone expecting the Soviet Peace Committee's annual visitation to convey warm breezes from the frozen Kremlin was in for a disappointment. The delegation: top Soviet scientist Dr. Nikolai Butchikov, the peace committee's Arabic-speaking Boris Makarenko and *Isvestia's* Konstantin Gevandov, reflected their masters' animosity.

One of them, even gave *The Jerusalem Post's* reporting on the Machabbi Tel Aviv-Zalgeris Kaunas basketball game in Brussels as "evidence of the anti-Soviet atmosphere prevailing in Israel," so I heard from Knesset Social Services committee chairman Ora Namir, one of the non-Rakha figures to meet the visitors.

THE forecast by *Newsweek* of a frosty reception from President Ronald Reagan for Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir on his U.S. trip next month is dismissed by Shamir's media counsellor Avi Pazner. Quite to the contrary - he predicts a hearty welcome at the White House as well as from Congress and the U.S. media. He bases this on a series of calls to his wide network of friends and contacts in Washington built up during his years (1974-81) as the Washington embassy press counselor. Pazner considers that the *Newsweek* story reflects the unfriendly attitudes of some middle-ranking officials.

While in the U.S. Shamir will undoubtedly pursue his continuing search among American Jewish religious figures for a formula to deal with immigrant converts acceptable to all trends. I gather that he is looking to Yeshiva University President Rabbi Norman Lamm in this connection. I'm told that Shamir's

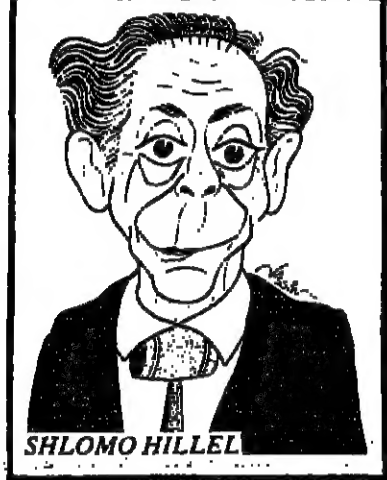


people are sounding out the readiness of rabbis and scholars here and in the Diaspora to serve on a committee chaired by a prominent Israeli figure to seek a common denominator on this thorny issue, so as to avoid a repetition of the Shoshana Miller crisis.

Shamir's people are trying to repair the Likud's bridges to Shas, with close aides like MK Ehud Olmert in constant contact with Shas leader Rabbi Yitzhak Peretz, for whom Deputy Minister Ronnie Milo is "baby-sitting" the interior portfolio. I gather that Shas's priority is how to avoid adding to the population register those immigrant converts whose applications are already in the pipeline.

The premier heard at first-hand a U.S. Jewish viewpoint from an American Jewish Committee delegation led by its president Ted Ellenoff, who warned of the danger of many young American Jews being alienated by the image of Israel sliding into theocracy.

When Shamir recently visited the Ashdod power station, he recalled his tour of the Haifa installation during his first premiership. Asked



when he'd see the one at Hadera, Shamir replied "I'm keeping that for my next term." That should set the pot boiling in Herut.

VICE-PREMIER and Foreign Minister Shimon Peres flew to Europe midweek, taking along his bureau head and spokesman Uri Savir and political adviser Nimrod Novik. Peres's prime purpose is to persuade the Europeans to help revive the peace process. Prior to meeting 12 foreign ministers in Brussels, he will see Premier Margaret Thatcher in London and President Francois Mitterrand in Paris. Before leaving, Peres gave a dinner party in honour of Mitterrand's aide Jacques Attali, for once not on a secret mission here.

Awaiting Peres's return is a simmering Alignment Knesset faction revolt against his choice as candidate for State Controller, former Civil Service Commissioner Ya'acov Nitzan who for many years was the late Golda Meir's highly-disciplined aide. Some MKs prefer a non-political nomination like Tel Aviv District Court Judge Hadassah Ben-Itto.



NO ONE should envy the job of Histadrut Secretary-General Yisrael Kessar. He's sitting on a volcano as devaluation and rising prices begin to erode wages. This week's hospital workers strike may well be his first rumbling. Kessar marked the 80th birthday of one of his predecessors, Aharon Becker - who invented the cost-of-living allowance system back in the '40s - by agreeing to its temporary suspension as the wage-earners' contribution to the new economic package deal.

HEALTH MINISTER Shoshana Arbeli-Almosino knows how to have her cake and eat it. She refuses to abide by the budget law or oblige striking hospital staff to return to work, but does not for hospitals but does not follow. Communications Minister Amnon Rubinstein's example by declining her new official Volvo.

EVEN PALS of Justice and Tourism Minister Avraham Shari' think he's gone too far this time. He took along his wife Rivka, spokesperson Devora Genani and aide Aharon Teitelman on a trip to Italy on tourism ministry

business. Contrary to regulations, the travel plans for the two aides were not submitted for prior approval to the Civil Service Commission's interdepartmental committee. The Sharis proceeded to Germany minus their two aides - who returned home early, not to save tax-payers' money - perish the thought - but reportedly because of bad weather. Even Europe's mini-ice Age won't deter the Sharis from a junket where a lower level official would do. I'm assured that Sharis is not looking in Europe for more Israeli criminals to fill our jails.

AVRAHAM AVI-HAI (who when he immigrated from Canada was known as Sid Appelbaum) has set a dangerous precedent by resigning on a matter of conscience from the World Zionist Executive following chairman Arye Dultzin's role in the Ernest Japhet scandal. He may even quit as Keren Hayesod chairman. He might even make accountability a norm of Israeli (and Zionist) public life. Avi-hai might yet be the best man to succeed Dultzin.

IT'S NEARLY 10 years since Menachem Begin became premier and officially proclaimed *protektzia* dead. Well, it's very much alive in Herut's Jerusalem branch according to the published report of the branch executive's discussions. Those like MK Yehoshua Matza, local boss Reuven Rivlin and Civil Service Commission official Yitzhak Kedmi seem to regard *protektzia* as their movement's new ideology. Shamir's confidant MK Dan Meridor clashed with the premier's aide Zachi Hanegbi, when warning: "We did not attain power to turn our party into a labour exchange." Hanegbi replied: "You're naive. Herut's aim must be to dominate the state apparatus at any price."

WHETHER dead or not, Raoul Wallenberg's memory is still very much alive in Israel. The Swedish

diplomat, who saved thousands of Hungarian Jews from death, was honoured by Tel Aviv University where prizes were awarded in his name by the Sweden-Israel Friendship Society, with the participation of Swedish Ambassador Sven Hirdman. The ambassador told the gathering, "We'll never close the Wallenberg file until we know the truth." Later the envoy and his wife Marianne held a reception at their Herzliya residence in honour of the Society's delegation led by its secretary, Dr. Kurt Thornquist.

Justice Moshe Bejski, chairman of Yad Vashem's Committee for the Righteous among the Nations, urged the Soviet authorities to reveal the truth about Wallenberg's fate at a mass rally in Tel Aviv attended by Shamir, Hillel and Tel Aviv's Mayor Shlomo (Chieb) Lahat. The assembly, organized by the Movement for a Better Israel, attended by its national chairman Haifa District Court Judge Micha Lindemstrauss and its Tel Aviv branch head Stella Levy. Guests of honour were such visiting Righteous Gentiles as Danish resistance leader Sven Seebohm, Poland's Andrzej Klimowicz and Henryk Grabowski; Belgium's Irma Halkin-Georis; and the 44-year-old Hungarian poetess Sara Karig, who worked with Wallenberg in the Budapest Red Cross. After the Soviets came, she spent seven years in the gulag.

AT BROADCASTING House they say Israel Radio chief Gideon Lev-Ary's protection will once again save his Washington correspondent Shimon ("Big Mouth") Schiffer from himself. The newsmen's penchant for giving interviews has got him into trouble again, with both the Prime Minister's Office and the Foreign Ministry furiously complaining to IBA chief Uri Porat about Schiffer for going on NBC TV and ABC TV to blame Israel for initiating the Iran arms deal.

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem
The Marjorie Mayrock Center for Soviet and East European Research
Conference
Women of the Russian Empire and the Soviet Union
Opening Session, 8 p.m. on Sunday, January 25, 1987,
at the Israel Academy of Sciences, 43 Jabotinsky Rd., Jerusalem.
Simcha Dinitz - Opening remarks
Gail Lapidus - "Production vs Reproduction: The Interaction of Women's Work and Family Roles"

<p>Mon., Jan. 26, 1987, Beit Malaradot, Mount Scopus</p> <p>9:30 Yael Herzog - "The Author's Dilemma: Fame and Shame of Fiction Writing in the Early 19th Century"</p> <p>11:15 Barbara Engel - "Women Revolutionaries: The Personal and Political"</p> <p>3:00 Shaul Stampfer - "Changing Patterns of Jewish Marriage in the Course of the 19th Century"</p> <p>4:00 Yael Herzog - "The Soviet State vs the Moslem Women"</p> <p>Isabelle Kreindler - "The Moravian Woman: Patriarchy to Communism"</p> <p>Other participants: Edith Frankel, Leona Toker, Stefani Hoffman, Jonathan Frankel, Richard Wortman, Shmuel Ettinger, Ezra Mendelsohn, Benjamin Pinkus, Michael Keren, Gaila Golan, Israel Getzler, Michael Agursky, Zvi Katz, Edward Allworth. All sessions in English.</p>	<p>Tue., Jan. 27, 1987, Beit Malaradot</p> <p>9:30 Gur Ofer and Aharon Vinokur - "The Economic Status of Women of the Soviet Urban Household"</p> <p>11:15 Shelia Ben Barak - "Motivation for Women's Labour: The Soviet Model"</p> <p>2:30 Richard Siller - "Russian Women in the Revolutionary Epoch, 1917-1930"</p> <p>4:00 Mordechai Altshuler - "The Social Structure of Jewish Women over the Past 20 Years"</p> <p>Alia Fraiman and Dina Brodsky - "Women Activists: A Personal Account"</p>
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INTENSE competition is driving sportsmen and sportswomen to impose ever greater demands on their bodies in order to reach peak performances: perfect fitness may make the difference between victory and defeat which can cost vast amounts of money.

Armies are driving recruits, particularly those who want to enter elite fighting units, to their limits, and even beyond. "You have to break the trainee first, make life so difficult for him that he feels that he cannot take it for another second, and then, when he discovers that he can overcome the pain and the exhaustion, he becomes a man and a fine soldier."

This was the response of Surgeon Commander D. I. Riddell of the Royal Navy, to a question of why the armed forces do not cut down on the rigour of the training programme in order to prevent training injuries.

While the aim may be to make the athlete or soldier produce the maximum from the body, there is a great danger that over-training and over-use can result in the exact opposite happening: the ability to function efficiently may be replaced by physical breakdown.

One of the main problems caused by this over-training and over-use is the development of stress fractures in the legs and feet. At the Third International Symposium on Sports Injuries held this week in Jerusalem, Israeli orthopedic surgeons reported that no fewer than 31 per cent of Israeli recruits examined by them suffered from stress fractures. It was revealed at the symposium by Dr. Thomas J. Scully, chief of orthopedics at the William Beaumont Army Medical Centre, Texas, that the U.S. army is spending \$7m. per year on treating stress fractures.

The same danger exists, although to a lesser extent, among people who take up jogging, tennis or other sports for recreation. There is now general awareness that sport and exercise are vital for the avoidance of heart disease, stroke and hypertension. But care must be taken not to incur a new ill in the effort to keep fit.

Stress fractures, which differ from the usual breakages of bones caused

by sudden falls or accidents, result from doing the same action repeatedly, such as marching, or running, or jogging for lengthy periods. This causes small injuries to the bone. These accumulate over the course of weeks, causing microfractures.

The cause and nature of stress fractures, and methods of treating them, provided the theme for the 2-day symposium, attended by 220 orthopedic surgeons and others active in the field of sports medicine. Of the 20 lectures, 10 were delivered by internationally renowned authorities from abroad.

HOW DOES a stress fracture come about? In 18- and 19-year-old recruits, who have been physically inactive for years, the stress fractures are a result of strenuous army training on "lazy bones." Within days of arriving at the army camp, the recruits are forced to march long distances, carrying heavy packs. The bones are forced into activity after many years of neglect as the marching feet pound unmercifully into the ground day after day. The surrounding muscles tug at the bone.

The bone is forced to get stronger and it does this by building new bone at the point of stress. The body calls in cells known as osteoblasts or bone-eating cells. They move into an area that is under great stress and start to remove old bone so that stronger new bone can fill in. However, the bone-forming cells, the osteoblasts, produce new cells slowly. Meanwhile, the recruit continues on the long marches every day, and finally the bone cracks. The cracks are called stress fractures. The osteoblast cells continue their feverish attempt to build new bone and it takes them about six weeks to heal the stress fracture.

The symptoms of a stress fracture are severe localized pain and tenderness. The stress fracture does not show up on an X-ray for the first 14 days, until a layer of new bone, a callus, made from osteoblast, forms over the crack. The Israeli army uses bone scans for early diagnosis of the condition.

For the professional athlete the problem arises as a result of exces-

Breakdown

Stress fractures are a common occurrence both in athletes and soldiers who push their bodies to the limit. Faith Spector and Philip Gillon report on an international symposium held in Jerusalem on the cause and prevention of such injuries.



David Bedford's excessive training takes its toll.

sive training or the wrong type of training. Dr. D. Cooper of St. Mary's Hospital, London, cited as examples the cases of David Bedford and David Moorcraft, two famous British long-distance runners. Bedford used to train by running 170-200 miles a week, ending with two full marathons on Saturday and Sunday. Moorcraft, who ran considerably later than Bedford, cut his training distance to 73 miles per week, but he trained with more intensity than Bedford. Both broke down.

Dr. Cooper stressed that Bedford's training was at fault because of the excessive quantity, and Moorcraft's because of the excessive intensity. A balance has to be struck in training programmes.

The same principles apply to the amateur engaged in recreational sport and jogging.

In athletes, the danger of stress fractures is greatest after a resumption of training following a break. In soldiers, Dr. T. Sahi, surgeon-general of the Frontier Guard of the Finnish Armed Forces pointed out, 70 to 80 per cent of stress fractures occurred in the first 8 to 10 weeks of enlistment. This confirms the experience in other countries.

A curious problem, quite apart from stress fractures, seems to develop for athletes who overtrain. They are very prone to viral infections. Both Sebastian Coe and Steve Ovett were forced out of competitive sport as a result of such infections.

In extreme cases, according to Dr. Y. Drory of Israel, sudden death may occur because the viral infection affects the heart.

THE SYMPOSIUM indicated that there are now ways of preventing stress fractures. In the first place, there is much better medical knowledge of the character and symptoms of the condition, and so there is a greater likelihood of the problem being tackled in time.

In the old days, there was a tendency to be tough and to ignore pain and tenderness. The professional tennis player did not want to reduce his earning power by missing tournaments, or a coach urged a football player to "be a man" and take the field. It is now known that if

the bone is allowed to rest in time, it will recover rapidly. Unfortunately, in armies, the old tradition of driving the new recruit too far still continues.

The other major advance is a technological one. Doctors, scientists, physiotherapists and shoe manufacturers are constantly exploring ways to improve footwear used for running, jogging and sports. Dr. G. E. MacLellan of the Oldchurch Hospital, Essex, England, said: "One has to remind oneself that, 20 years ago, no one was aware that an ordinary tennis shoe without padding and support gave insufficient support to the athlete."

A major advance is the introduction of shoe inserts to compensate for irregularities of the feet, hips and legs.

Dr. Steven I. Subotnik of the Hesperian Medical Centre, California, commented: "Appropriate footwear decreases the likelihood of stress-related injury. A compliant mid-sole is quite helpful. Likewise, visco-elastic polymers, in the inner sole within the midsole of the shoe, decrease impact shock and attenuate shock, thus decreasing the likelihood of impact-related injury."

Dr. McLellan was very enthusiastic about what he had heard at the symposium. He concluded: "It is exciting to know that so many people are engaged in trying to find remedies for these ills. I feel strongly that a breakthrough on stress-fracture prevention is imminent."

The symposium was organized by the Unit of Sports Medicine of the Hebrew University's Howard Cosell Centre of Physical Education and the Department of Orthopedic Surgery of the Hadassah University Hospital on Mount Scopus.

"This was our third international symposium," said Dr. Gideon Mann, the chairman of the organizing committee. "We were very pleased with the response from overseas and by the great interest now being shown in sports medicine in Israel. Our next symposium will take place on January 11 and 12, 1988, and we have already had applications from would-be participants from abroad."

By the way...

FOREIGN MINISTER Shimon Peres revealed in London on Wednesday that agreement had been reached with the Jordanians on 10 points to permit an international conference leading towards peace talks between Israel and Jordan.

He would say no more, but a Whitehall source leaked to this correspondent details of the 10 points as follows:

1. No sessions will be held on Yom Kippur, Ramadan or Columbus Day.
2. Nicaragua will definitely not be invited to participate.
3. There will be no smoking at open sessions, except for nargilas.
4. Kashrut arrangements will be under supervision of the Vatican.
5. Official languages will be

alternately Russian and Chinese.

6. In the remote possibility of direct contact being necessary between the representatives of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, seated in Lima, and the delegates of the Tel Aviv authorities, in Reykjavik, this will be accomplished through satellite, alternately Soviet and American.

7. The Royal Hashemite delegation will not include any gun-toting, unshaven chairmen of the PLO.

8. The Tel Aviv team will not bring along William Nakash.

9. There'll be lots and lots of photo opportunities.

10. Should the conference make any progress whatsoever, it will adjourn indefinitely.

NDG

Passionate politician

Bob Hawke, Australia's prime minister, visits Israel next week. His father was a Congregational Church minister: his mother was convinced her son had been chosen by God for great office. Within hours of being elected leader of the Labour Party in 1983, a snap election was called. Within weeks he became Australia's premier. *The Jerusalem Post's* Douglas Davis examines what has been termed Hawke's love affair with Israel.



this antipodean guy who appears to be so ready to put his head in a noose for the Jewish people? How could this tough, hard-drinking, hard-living, highly tuned political animal be reconciled with such overflowing passion for the fate of the Jewish people and their state?

HE UNDERTOOK secret missions to Moscow for Golda Meir to try to prise open the door to Jewish emigration: he travelled to Jordan to persuade the Hashemite Court to make peace with Israel. Jordan has not yet signed a treaty with its Jewish neighbour, but in the years following Hawke's first mission to the Soviet Union, there was a sharp increase in the number of Jews allowed to leave.

History will judge the effect of Hawke's intercession on Israel's behalf. But whatever the verdict, it will show that he never stopped trying, or caring.

One Israeli who is close to him believes that Hawke's commitment to Israel is based on three apparently unrelated elements.

"The first," says Ephraim Bar-Shmuel, a senior Histadrut official, "is his deep Christian faith. Bob does not behave like a Christian —

outwardly, at least — but inside he has strong religious beliefs.

"Second, he takes the Holocaust very seriously — more seriously than many Jews. As a Christian of European stock, he feels personally responsible in a sense for what happened to the Jewish people, for the millennium of hate towards Jews which culminated in the Holocaust.

"Third are his socialist ideas, which go way beyond party politics. Bob's socialism is a concept of how society should be, how it should work and look. And in Israel, he found ordinary individuals trying to implement biblical ideas of social justice and human rights.

"For him, the Israeli labour movement — the Histadrut, the kibbutz organization, all of which are making a contribution to the building of a new country and creating the framework of a new society — came as a revelation. This influenced him immensely and brought him very close to Israel, particularly to that special labour which he found within the labour movement."

BUT THE Israel that Hawke will encounter when he arrives from Jordan next week will be very different

from the country that made such a profound impression on him in 1971.

Hawke will visit Israel in a month when Yitzhak Shamir, the current Likud prime minister, has reaffirmed his uncompromising opposition to territorial concessions in exchange for peace; when Israel looks like being sucked back into the Lebanese morass; when the Knesset is on the threshold of approving economic measures that will involve a giant retreat from socialism; when tensions between Jews and Arabs are threatening to tear apart the fragile fabric of Jerusalem.

Israel has changed and so, perhaps, has Hawke. Since becoming prime minister, he has maintained a discreet distance from Israel. Do his Israeli friends feel let down by this arm's-length approach? "I'm not disappointed," says Bar-Shmuel. "Politics is the art of the possible, and Bob has to work within the limits imposed by reality — both international and national."

"Bob himself may have had certain expectations of international status. For him, Australia is a very small jacket indeed and he is more a man of the world than any other Australian I have ever met. But he is

certainly aware that his country has little influence on the international, and even regional, scene.

"He also has to deal with the left wing of his party which used his outspoken pro-Israel stand as a stick to beat him with. And Israel certainly didn't help by invading Lebanon in 1982. We made it virtually impossible for deeply committed friends like Bob to defend us."

But what has become of his earlier, outspoken support for Israel? "As a trade union leader, he had more freedom. As prime minister, he is restricted to a very narrow framework."

"He pays a certain price for keeping his political team together, and in that context, I certainly cannot blame him for not bursting with public love for Israel."

The trade union leader rejects the suggestion that Hawke might play a mediating role in the Middle East.

"The Arabs can't forget his stand on Israel and the way that he was prepared to jeopardize his own political career. He might be even-handed now, but they are not stupid. They know that his feelings are deeply involved."

"He is qualified in that he knows the situation in the Middle East very well — even if some of his ideas are not very realistic. But I don't believe that he has the necessary credibility in the eyes of the Arabs to perform such a role. Then again, I could be wrong, the Messiah may be coming."

As Hawke enters Yad Vashem next Tuesday morning, he will no doubt recall a previous encounter with the Holocaust memorial centre.

It occurred in 1971, at the start of his first visit to Israel, and the experience had a visceral effect on the Australian Labour leader. It reduced him to tears, inflamed him with anger and formed the cornerstone of his attachment to the Jewish state.

Hawke might not fulfil Israel's legal definition of a "Righteous Gentile," but if the category were ever broadened, his name would undoubtedly be at the top of any Israeli list of candidates.

Indeed, it is this element of admiration and trust that sets Hawke apart from the stream of international statesmen and would-be statesmen who leave their fingerprints on the coffee cups of the King David Hotel.

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INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE:

Irish and Jewish Nationalism in the 20th Century: POLITICS, RELIGION AND TERROR

January 26 - 27, 1987

Monday, January 26: Irish and Jewish Nationalism: Parallels and Differences

9:00 a.m. Conference Opening:

Theme: Irish and Jewish Nationalism: An Overview

Chairman: Prof. Paul Lawrence Rose, University of Haifa

Lecturer: Dr. Conor Cruise O'Brien, Ireland

Responses: Prof. Shlomo Avineri, The Hebrew University, Prof. Yehoshafat Harkabi, The Hebrew University

11:30 a.m. Theme: Cultural and Religious Aspects of Irish and Jewish Nationalism

Chairman: Dr. Menachem Kellner, University of Haifa

Lecturers: Prof. David Daiches, University of Edinburgh Prof. Yeshayahu Leibowitz, The Hebrew University

2:00 p.m. Theme: Cultural and Religious Aspects of Irish and Jewish Nationalism

Chairman: Dr. Stanley Waterman, University of Haifa

Lecturers: Prof. Owen Dudley-Edwards, University of Edinburgh Rabbi David Rosen, former Chief Rabbi of Ireland

3:30 p.m. Theme: Politics, Terror and National Liberation

Chairman: Prof. Alan Dowty, University of Haifa

Lecturers: Prof. J. Bowyer Bell, Columbia University, Prof. Hedva Ben-Israel, The Hebrew University, Prof. Charles Townshend, University of Keele, England

Discussion: Prof. A.B. Yehoshua, University of Haifa

Tuesday, January 27: Jewish Nationalism in the 20th Century Under Siege

9:00 a.m. Theme: Zionism Under Siege

Chairman: Prof. Dan Segre, University of Haifa

Presentation: Dr. Conor Cruise O'Brien, Ireland Prof. Joseph Agassi, Tel Aviv University

Panel Discussion: Mr. Yitzhak Ben-Aharon, Dr. Hatem Abu Ghazala, Dr. Yigal Elam and Mr. Hillel Kook

11:45 p.m. Theme: State of Israel Under Siege

Chairman: Prof. Ozer Schild, University of Haifa

Lecturer: Prof. Yuval Neeman MK, Tel Aviv University

Panel Discussion including: Prof. Yehoshua Porat, Mr. Ehud Olmert MK, Mr. Gideon Rafael and Mr. Arye Naor

2:30 p.m. Theme: The Future of Israel

Chairman: Prof. Gabriel Ben-Dor, University of Haifa

Roundtable Discussion: Dr. Conor Cruise O'Brien, Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz, Prof. Arye Dvoretzky, Prof. Benjamin Z. Kedat, Prof. Arnon Soffer, Prof. Paul Lawrence Rose

5:00 p.m. Closing Session:

Chairman: Prof. Gabriel Ben-Dor, University of Haifa

Closing Remarks: Mr. Chaim Herzog, President of the State of Israel

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One of a dwindling breed

Rumour has it that cabinet minister Gad Ya'acobi might be our next ambassador in Washington. *The Jerusalem Post's* Political Correspondent Mark Segal interviews the only cabinet member who is a published poet.

ECONOMICS AND Planning Minister Gad Ya'acobi is one of that dwindling breed — a politician who is a man of letters. Many of our past leaders prided themselves on their writing abilities, but that is no longer the general case. The 52-year-old Labour minister's reputation is based on his writing on politics and economics. He has four books to his credit, aside from regular contributions to the press. His book *The Government of Israel* (1982) — considered a standard text-book on the subject — has appeared in Hebrew and English.

Ya'acobi is also the only published poet in the cabinet. His verse is intensely personal, but on occasion he writes highly relevant lines. I still consider most self-revealing the couplet from the poem which appeared after the 1984 elections:

*"And the silence is of the corpses of abandoned ideas
Which no longer disturb the neighbours' rest."*

Discussing the British capacity for self-dissection as evinced in (disgraced Tory) Jeffrey Archer's *Among Equals* — currently being serialized on Israeli TV, Ya'acobi says he envies the British. Despite their reputedly reserved national character, they have managed more than any other democratic nation to produce authors capable of portraying the other side of public life in a most honest and candid manner.

He singles out the Crossman Diaries (Richard Crossman's *The Diaries of a Cabinet Minister*) as an exemplary model of revealing and incisive political writing, while lacking any malice. The nearest kind of personal political revelations published in Israel were the Sharet Diaries.

"However, the prime difference between them was that, unlike Richard Crossman, our second prime minister never published his diaries in his lifetime. His son brought them out after his death. Many people claim Sharet never intended them for publication. Moreover, Crossman may indulge in irony and sarcasm, but he was far from Sharet's style with its touches of spitefulness and bitterness," he observes.

Ya'acobi considers Archer's novel "a literary documentary, offering insights into British political life through concrete examples." He thinks the publication of such political writings in Britain reflects

not only the capacity for self-detachment inherent in such diverse political figures as Crossman and Archer, but also a cultural tradition that legitimizes such frankness by public personalities.

"That hardly exists in other cultures, not in the U.S., certainly not in Israel, where such a capacity for detachment is lacking. With us anyone writing such exposes could never expect forgiveness. For an Israeli politician it would be his swan song," he remarks knowingly. As a prime example he offers Yitzhak Rabin "whose memoirs are hardly of a personal nature. They contain few damning disclosures. But it sufficed for him to employ a few personal epithets to have to pay an exceedingly heavy political price."

A major reason, Ya'acobi believes, that Israeli politicians could never permit themselves to emulate Archer is "our culture of unity against the outsider." Warning to this theme he continues, "We Jews carry an ancestral memory of being the persecuted minority. The *goyim* were always against us. We learned how to shield ourselves from the outsider. Back in our homeland we found ourselves under siege and at war with the Arabs. We continue to be under threat. Hence the mentality of unity above all."

In a topical aside, he adds "that's why the national unity government is so popular with the general public. I wouldn't be at all surprised if it continues after the next elections."

"Anything causing tension like a book based on political exposures earns a bad reception. That's why they've never been written. We have had many political memoirs — from

leaders like Ben-Gurion, Golda, Rabin, Dayan, Eban and Ezer, but none of them really unveil themselves. We've had lots of novels and plays on political themes, but they've never been written by politicians, rather by writers without any real political experience."

What about he himself? "That's below the belt," he chuckled. "I haven't ended my life yet. Who knows what'll happen when I reach retirement." Less jocularly, he adds "When I sat down to write my book *The Government of Israel* in 1980 I used my diaries from my years as a minister (transport) in Rabin's cabinet, and as a deputy minister (again transport) in Golda's second government. I purposely decided to reveal as little as possible of a personal nature. I focused primarily on policy-making procedures, but without bringing in the personalities for the above-mentioned reasons."

Was it also because of the nature of our political system? "It's more due to the nature of our culture and our tradition. However, it is in a large measure the outcome of our hyper-centralized political system, where three to four people can decide one's fate. The public has little influence. After all, a Knesset member's constituency consists of the members of his party's central committee."

Do the media wield no clout? "Our electronic and written media have influence because of the intimate nature of our small society."

Ya'acobi sums it all up with the Yiddish story his father used to tell at mealtime back in Kfar Vitkin — "Do you see this fish on the table? Why is it lying here waiting for us to eat it,

instead of swimming freely in the sea? Because it opened its mouth at the wrong moment!"

PROBING HIM on reports of his possibly setting a precedent, by transferring from the cabinet to the Washington embassy, instead of the customary reverse process, he replied with a conscious vagueness: "At this stage, I repeat this stage, I can only give the following reply: I do not respond to hypothetical questions with hypothetical answers."

He quickly added: "Undoubtedly, Israel does need an ambassador of the highest standard in Washington in order to fortify our position in the time leading up to the 1988 elections, to pursue a fruitful dialogue with Congress especially in view of all the recent problems, and to foster our bond with the American Jewish community."

As a member of the inner economic cabinet and one of Labour's principal economic spokesmen, Ya'acobi was deeply involved in the convoluted discussions leading to the cabinet vote on the budget and the economic programme. I asked him whether Treasury spokesmen were correct in claiming that the final product of these discussions was what they originally planned.

The economics and planning minister is amused by the Treasury's version, "Perhaps the packaging appears the same, but substantially every element was changed. The Treasury's proposed budget cuts never made it — in particular there were no defence cutbacks. Their tax reform plan underwent a radical reform. The original Treasury proposals offered no answer to the urgent



need for increasing exports and tackling our worsening trade imbalance. In the end, the proposals included measures like devaluation and forgoing part of the cost-of-living allowance payments. The original Treasury plan sought to abolish all tax reliefs — they were abandoned. They sought tax savings, particularly pension and provident funds. That too was dropped," he points out.

Ya'acobi welcomes the three-way dialogue of the government, the Histadrut and the employers, that was definitely not envisaged by the Treasury in its original guidelines. Without mentioning Finance Minister Moshe Nissim's name, Labour's economic spokesman remarks sardonically:

"I find it unfortunate that someone thought it possible to produce economic policy by a conjuring trick, and impose measures by a take-it-or-leave-it attitude. That simply won't work in a democratic system."

He was optimistic that foundations have been laid for the beginning of economic growth by a combination of four factors: first, the reduction of labour costs with, for

example, the National Insurance Institute assuming payment of the employers' levy, in effect cancelling this burden on employers. Next, cost-of-living allowances will be suspended, and when necessary borne by the NII; second, the tax margin will be lowered from 60 to 40 per cent, thereby heightening motivation to increase productivity, with an ensuing higher competitive capacity for Israeli manufacturers on the export market; third, the devaluation decision boosted the export drive and limited imports, giving Israel a much-needed shot in the arm; fourth, capital market reform — firms will henceforth have to go directly to the money market through the decrease in government involvement.

On their last visit here the Task Force troika — Max Fisher, Morton Mandel and Charles Bronfman — complained about the slow pace of privatization of state-owned companies. Mention of their complaint to Ya'acobi, the minister responsible for liaison with the Task Force, brings a confession about his dissatisfaction with the work of the cabinet committee delegated to sell off government firms. He notes that

a list was compiled of 12 companies for sale, but — he regrets — nothing concrete has been done yet. He is quick to mention certain key measures — such as tax reform and capital market reform — adopted at the Task Force's behest.

He hopes the Task Force's devoted leadership will recognize such highlights as the creation of an American Investment Corporation in conjunction with Clal, which has already mobilized \$50 million, and of a joint American-Israeli food sales promotion network in the U.S. Their efforts and the Free Trade Area's potential should help to increase Israeli exports to the USA (from \$800m. in 1982 to \$2.2 billion in 1986).

The economics and planning minister warns that foreign currency problems are going to become even more acute: in 1987 alone Israel must repay \$4.2 billion worth of debts and interest on debts, and will be \$1.4b. short in 1987, because oil prices have not decreased and last year's \$750m. U.S. emergency aid is not being repeated. Hence, the urgency of increasing exports, which he believes could rise by at least 10 per cent or \$1b. this year, if properly encouraged.

The Labour minister did not dodge my question about the grand coalition having increased politicization of public appointments. "I'm unhappy that we've allowed ourselves to go too far in compromising our political posture in appointments, in policy-making and in decision-making procedures. We'll pay a heavy price," he warns.

Nor is Ya'acobi happy about the current differences between the two parties. "We have different priorities. We have different health and housing most important, while they prefer private consumption and pure populist programmes. We prefer to spend more money on development towns and agriculture. The Likud wants to divert more millions to Judea and Samaria."

Ya'acobi is no dove, but an integral part of Labour's activist mainstream. Yet his growing anxiety about the impact of the territories on Israel society — "who's annexing whom?" — has modified his views, and penetrated his poetry. Hence a recent poem after a visit to Hebron, entitled "Children Skip and Hop in Tel Rumeida":

"...I remembered the floundering fish dying in darkness and darkness, losing its soul unknowingly..."

AVRAHAM-Verdiger, the only representative of the ultra-Orthodox camp in the opposition in the 11th Knesset, the man who regularly thunders from the podium against the "secular left," freely acknowledges that were it not for those same leftists, for the youth of Hashomer Hatzair, for example, there would be no State of Israel.

And the state — which he continually refers to by the religiously neutral term "the state of the Jews" — matters to him passionately, although he is at pains to distance himself from what he disparagingly terms "political Zionism." Verdiger has fought in the IDF and is as proud of his two sons' and two sons-in-law's army service as he is of their yeshiva training.

He describes his Morasha-Poalei Agudat Yisrael party as "primarily a workers' party," and points with satisfaction to the movement's five kibbutzim and *moshavim shufitim*, and its "many" *moshavim*. Verdiger's own lively pen-and-ink sketches cover the walls of his apartment in Jerusalem's ultra-Orthodox Tori quarter, their themes mirroring his words: they show cobblers, printers, tailors, even a goose-woman — Jewish workers, dressed in the traditional Eastern European Orthodox garb. There are remarkably few rabbis.

Poalei Agudat Yisrael is not represented in the Histadrut. But Verdiger says, "We are represented in almost all its constituent unions and we are members of Kupat Holim, the Histadrut's health fund... we have special membership stamps. We wouldn't want a closer association..."

For all his reservations about the Zionist state, he is a Lapid of Israel man. "We have freed, not conquered, it. You can't talk of conquest, because it is our land. That, to my mind, is how the overwhelming majority of Orthodox Jews, national-minded Jews, see it."

"We have returned to the land of our fathers after 2,000 years of exile. Of course we mustn't maltreat the Arabs in our midst, we mustn't use violence against them, nor — God forbid — kill them. But then, Jews don't kill."

BUT VERDIGER can put the knife into his erstwhile partners, Agudat Yisrael, and that's what he does when asked to define his party's political place on the Israel political map.

"Our whole-hearted support of aliyah has often militated against us, for other ultra-Orthodox parties operating here abroad. But there, they work all out to preserve their own interests, ultra-Orthodox Diaspora interests, not aliyah."

The Shoshana Miller case, and the High Court's ruling that this Reform convert must be registered as Jewish in her identity card, throws Verdiger's stance into clear relief.

Ultra-Orthodox opposition

Dvorah Getzler

Last week, he issued an impassioned call to the other religious parties to leave the coalition after Ronnie Milo, deputy minister in the prime minister's office, had said he would obey the court's ruling if Miller came to collect her ID card.

So far Verdiger's call has been met by a thunderous silence. THE ULTRA-Orthodox Sephardi party, Shas, is still in the government, with a deputy minister, although Yitzhak Peretz did resign earlier this month as interior minister, saying that his party would probably pull out of the coalition.

Shas, however, continues to play its cards very close to its chest. Senior party spokesmen would only tell *The Jerusalem Post* that "contacts are going on all the time with Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir." Peretz is also on record as saying that if Miller does not return — and hence there is no need to issue a "fraudulent ID card" — his return to the ministry would be eased. Meanwhile Shamir is keeping the post open.

(Miller's failure to return, and the suspicion that her application for citizenship may have been a put-up job, may also have robbed the Reform movement of much of its popularity in secular circles.)

In Shas it is not the politicians, proper, who decide, but the Sephardi ultra-Orthodox rabbinical council, its Moetzes Hachamei Hatorah. Twice this week Shas sources have been cagey when questioned by *The Post*. "The council will meet soon. They decide when they'll meet. And they'll decide on whether we leave the coalition."

Behind that reply lies the complicated world of rabbinical rivalries. Shas, despite its Sephardi composition, takes its lead from Ashkenazi Rabbi Eliezer Schach, who is the bitter opponent of the rebbe of Gur. Agudat Yisrael, and seriously ill spiritual mentor. And it is his critical condition that is said to be paralysing the Aguda.

For the moment, according to a senior Aguda leader, that party's Council of Torah Sages is not likely to recommend that Aguda leave the coalition.

"It's quite simple," said the source, who insisted on anonymity. "There are a limited number of issues that are crucial for us — education, the exemption of yeshiva students and Orthodox girls from army service, control over post-mortems —

and any change in the status quo here would bring automatic resignation from the coalition."

"But, as for the general Jewish character of the state — that's another matter."

The source also claimed that Shamir had told Aguda's Avraham Shapira that Milo had not been speaking in the premier's name when he told the Knesset that the Miller case was a precedent. But that startling claim could not be confirmed with the Prime Minister's Office.

"I don't know of any such conversation between Shapira and the prime minister," an aide to the premier said. "Milo, of course, did say the case was a precedent. But that's something that we'll have to check very thoroughly."

"Of course, it's no secret that Shamir and the vast majority of the Likud would favour amending the Who's a Jew law as the religious parties want. But there are political considerations too," the aide said.

At the moment, there are no indications that the "political considerations" — the need to maintain the present wall-to-wall coalition — would prompt the Likud to make any move over the controversial proposal to make the definition of a Jew (for the purposes of the Law of Return) a halachic test.

Many of the Liberal wing of the Likud are known to oppose it and Labour is adamantly opposed.

BUT IT IS the National Religious Party's attitudes that are widely seen as the key to developments.

Any NRP move away from the coalition would, it is generally held in Orthodox circles, lead to a walk-out by Shas and the Aguda, neither of which can afford to be outcasted.

So far, the only overt sign of such a move is MK David Danino's claim that he has called for a meeting of the NRP's senior councils to discuss Verdiger's appeal to leave the coalition. He says that he will press the leadership to abandon the coalition if the government makes no concessions on the Who's-a-Jew question.

Danino favours amending the Rabbinical Courts Law. That would mean that all those converted abroad and seeking Israel citizenship would have to have their conversions — whether Orthodox, Conservative or Reform — authorized by a rabbinical court here.

But attempts to push that law through have met with determined opposition from Labour which, in addition to its ideological objections to enhancing the rabbinate's power, also keeps a weather eye on the non-Orthodox majority in the Zion-



"Sihat Holin" (Mundane chat), drawing by MK Avraham Verdiger.

ist bodies abroad.

Certainly Verdiger's call seems to have had some effect on the NRP which next Monday will convene a think tank of some 50 Orthodox personalities to thrash out the Who's a Jew issue. But even party insiders were unwilling to speculate whether this means the party is running scared and is determined to flex its religious muscle for its electorate.

Verdiger still sees the NRP as a possible partner in the formation of a religious bloc, which he would like to see set up — at least for electoral purposes. He notes that he fought the last election together with a breakaway NRP group that was led by Haim Druckman and formed Morasha with him. Last year, his partners abandoned him and went back to the NRP when that party's leadership changed.

AT LEAST former NRP elder statesman, one-time religious affairs minister Yitzhak Rafael, shares the view that a religious bloc is probably the only way to push through legislation guaranteeing the Jewish religious character of the state.

But Rafael — mercilessly shoved aside by the then-young generation of the party — says firmly that he has nothing to do with party affairs now, and does not seem hopeful.

And indeed, it is difficult to be hopeful about the NRP. The party plummeted dramatically from 12 MKs in 1977 to only four (Druckman's return brought them up to five.) And they, too, are divided. Their leader, Zevulun Hammer, is very much a choice of uneasy compromise, rather than *primus inter pares*.

The NRP, which recently threw off its veteran leadership, even dumping Israel's longest-serving cabinet minister, Dr. Yosef Burg, is being pulled apart by incompatible

years ago. But, after achieving a large measure of agreement between the Conservatives and the moderate Orthodox wing of U.S. Jewry, he saw the idea fall flat in the face of the warning by Rabbi Soloveitchik, spiritual leader of the moderate Orthodox. Any joint action could only lead to a fearful split within Orthodox Jewry, Soloveitchik said. And today, Raphael points out, the Conservatives are led by less observant rabbis and are hence less acceptable to the Orthodox. The Conservative and Reform movements have also grown numerically far stronger and more confident. Compromise by either side seems unlikely.

The religious parties appear to have worked themselves into a corner — and it is a far-right corner. The parallelogram of the national unity coalition has room for such a corner, but elections are less than two years away and the pull and push for gains to flourish before the voter must soon start in earnest.

And religion, as always in Israel, where what was once regarded as *shul* (synagogue) politics has become national politics, seems again likely to determine both the shape of the next government and the future of religious Zionism. That movement is today poised — at best — between Verdiger's fencing off from political Zionism and an NRP whose future may already be behind it.

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JUDGING FROM the attention given to Israel's relations with South Africa, one might suppose that South Africa would collapse if Israel were to impose sanctions on the Pretoria regime. But this is far from the case. For the fact of the matter is that the South African air force is mainly French, its ground forces British and its artillery includes cannon from Sweden. Its telephone exchanges are French, its banking system largely British and its major trading partners include states in black Africa which, according to a Library of Congress survey, do six times more trade with South Africa than does Israel.

Moreover, unlike the divestment debate now taking place in the United States no such debate is taking place here. Not because of moral considerations, but because, unlike corporations and institutions of higher learning in the U.S., this country does not have billions of dollars invested in South Africa. It does not face the dilemma of either instituting equal pay for equal work in South African subsidiaries of Israeli companies or closing them down, as Kodak, Coca-Cola, General Motors, IBM and Ford, have done, to mention but a few.

And while faculty and administrative staff at Harvard and Berkeley, to mention just two American universities, wrestle with how to withdraw the hundreds of millions of dollars they have invested in South Africa, few of those leading the fight ask why they had money invested there in the first place.

Strange how, when the rand was strong, gold soaring and interest rates the highest in the world, no one cared about the horrors of apartheid. Not after Sharpsville or Soweto

or any of the other landmarks of white South African repression.

Instead, the sudden bout of academic conscience only occurred after South Africa began to fault on its international debt repayment, strikes started crippling South African industry, and the rand and gold took a dive.

Only then did ideological considerations begin to outweigh pecuniary ones, ironically coinciding with the abolition of a few of apartheid's many odious decrees of inequality, such as the Immorality Act and the Pass Laws.

THIS IS NOT to deny or belittle Israel's ties with South Africa, but merely to put them in proportion. That there are links between the two countries is indisputable. As, unfortunately, is the fact that the connection has become stronger in recent years, starting with black Africa's decision to cut its ties with Israel in 1973, and gaining momentum under the Likud government in 1977.

Not only was the Likud's attitude towards the South African regime dominated by cold pragmatism, but South African Jewry was a traditional Herut stronghold, with some of its key members now becoming instrumental in forging government-to-government ties.

Thus, the late Simha Ehrlich, when he was finance minister, had no compunction about being chairman of the Israel-South African Friendship League; South African Airways was given landing rights in Israel; top South African government officials visited here under thinly-veiled disguises to make the visits unofficial; top Israelis, like Ariel Sharon and Moshe Arens when they were defence ministers,

International hypocrisy

Israel's ties with South Africa have grown in recent years. *The Jerusalem Post's* Defence Correspondent Hirsch Goodman argues that although our connections are not as extensive as other countries', there should be a basic re-assessment of our relations with Pretoria.

visited South Africa.

Sharon even went so far as to offer started South African defence officials a formal strategic pact, which they politely rejected.

WHILE ISRAELI activity in South Africa is small compared with that of many other countries in the West, reports about Israel's military relationship with South Africa persist. They range from Israeli military advisers being attached to front-line South African army units, to joint testing of nuclear weapons.

In recent months, Israel has been reported to have worked extensively on the upgrading of the South African's aging fleet of Mirage fighters; to have provided South Africa with a strategic refuelling capability; to have helped develop the South African army's new assault rifle. And there have been reports of significant

South African participation in the Lavi fighter project.

While some of these assertions – including one by Tass, the official Soviet news agency, that Israel and South Africa had jointly developed a "pigmentation bomb" that would kill only blacks and Arabs – are fanciful, they are potentially dangerous, for the U.S. Congress has under consideration legislation to cut off all foreign aid to countries found to be militarily supporting the South African regime.

If the congressional investigation finds that Israel is indeed a supplier of military materiel to South Africa, we could be in serious trouble, being the only recipient of American aid (\$3 billion per year) currently under suspicion. Though if Congress takes its job seriously, the list of "rogues" will include all America's major

allies and indeed, the U.S. itself.

If we base ourselves on foreign reports, and if it is true that Israel supplied South Africa with a strategic air refuelling capability, for example, it is also true that the planes these are housed in are American-made Boeing 707s.

And if Israel did upgrade the South African Mirage, the engine powering the plane is a French-made Snecma, as are the plane's basic avionics and electronic systems.

Even the Uzi submachine-guns, the "symbol" of Israel-South African cooperation, were made in Belgium, where the FN factory obtained the production licence in return for giving Israel the right to manufacture FN rifles.

Other than Saar IV missile-boats being made under licence in South Africa since the mid 1970s, as part of



Ehrlach had no compunctions. (Rubinger)



Sharon offered a defence pact. (Karlinsky)

an Israel-American consensus that the protection of the Cape of Good Hope was a mutual Western interest, there is not a single identifiable Israeli weapons system in service with the South African forces.

This does not mean that there is no Israel-South African military connection: just that any objective review of the situation will perhaps finger Israel in some way, but it would send a searchlight in the direction of others, including many countries where criticism of the Israel-South African connection is loudest.

THAT INTERNATIONAL hypocrisy is rampant, however, should not prevent a basic re-assessment of our relations with South Africa, and not just because \$3b. in American aid may be in jeopardy. Though this is

an excellent reason in itself, and probably the motivating factor behind the government's recent critical statements on apartheid.

There is a need for a re-assessment, because recent developments both in South Africa and in Israel's international relations, make Israeli ambiguity regarding the South African regime no longer acceptable.

Too much has happened in South Africa in recent months – the mass slayings of protesters, the indiscriminate arrests, the press clamp-down, the use of weapons to still the voice of the labour unions – to allow Israeli leaders to continue to get away with pat anti-apartheid lip-service while pursuing a different pragmatic policy.

A LEADING Soviet theoretician has urged the need for a peaceful resolution of the conflict in South Africa, and has warned against overconfidence in accepting the irreversibility of the present stage of the struggle. More remarkably, he advocates far-reaching compromises to make it easier for the white minority to abandon apartheid and to lessen the present level of racial conflict.

These surprising views are contained in a report submitted to the Second Soviet-African Conference of Peace, Cooperation and Social Progress by Gleb Starushenko, a corresponding member of the USSR Academy of Sciences. His report contains four major proposals that, in some respects, come closer to the views of President Botha and his advisers than to the African National Congress (ANC) and its ally the South African Communist Party.

His first proposal endorses "the programme of the anti-racist forces" and their "readiness to give the bourgeoisie the necessary guarantees they seek," without "a broad nationalization of capitalist property as an indispensable condition." This is clearly a reference to recent talks held in Zambia between the ANC and leading South African businessmen.

His second proposal is that the ANC "might work out comprehensive guarantees for the white popula-

Marxist analysis for South Africa

Colin Legum

tion which could be implemented after the elimination of the apartheid regime."

Starushenko points to Kenya and Zimbabwe as examples of countries where the white minorities have been encouraged to feel secure after independence.

Most remarkable of all is his third proposal: the idea of a parliament consisting of two chambers – one formed on the basis of proportional representation, the other possessing the right of veto on the basis of equal representation for all four major racial communities. (The idea of a chamber with veto powers is, in fact, close to a set of proposals suggested by some of President Botha's constitutional advisers.)

Starushenko's proposal is that the post-apartheid state might take the form of a unitary system with "autonomous components." The form and substance of such autonomy, he adds, should be defined

with due regard to "the will of the population" determined through referendums or negotiations. Concrete issues related to the functioning of such a system could be the subject of a national conference with the government of the Republic of South Africa and representatives of the non-white population taking part.

Finally, Starushenko, stressing the need for "a peaceful resolution of the conflict in South Africa," suggests this might be secured through international guarantees, with the different sides selecting guarantors by agreement, from prestigious international organizations or individual states.

STARUSHENKO's proposals make perfectly good sense in terms of the Soviet Marxist analysis of the situation in South Africa. First, they describe the deepening of international contradictions, with the "upper strata of society" no longer able to rule by their own old methods and having to find some way out of their dilemma. These structural differences must be further deepened by

encouraging the "ruling class" to advance the idea of a negotiated settlement.

Second, they adhere to the principle of the two-phase struggle: only after the success of the "liberation struggle" in ending apartheid can the struggle begin for the "national democratic revolution."

Third, in determining the stage reached so far, the proposals warn that the struggle might lose its momentum, becoming "bogged down in the present pre-revolutionary stage."

Starushenko notes that a considerable portion of South African society is not yet engaged in the struggle, and that those who are engaged not infrequently fail to coordinate their efforts.

He adds that if the participation of the proletariat in the liberation struggle were broader, it would afford opportunities for closer cooperation with the Communist Party. "The recognized and experienced leader of the South African workers and other anti-racist forces."

Whatever the motives of Soviet theoreticians like Gleb Starushenko in advocating a peaceful resolution to the present conflict, their approach at least discourages the notion that the present deadlock can be broken only by increasing the level of revolutionary violence.



Iraq's President Saddam Hussein (centre) with King Hussein of Jordan (left) and Egypt's President Mubarak.

Iraq a better bet

Arye Naor

when he realized that then Israeli leader Menachem Begin was thinking along the same lines, he made his historic visit to Jerusalem.

UNFORTUNATELY, a peace treaty between Israel and Iraq is far-fetched. We don't have even a formal cease-fire with the Iraqis, not to mention an interim agreement like the one we had with Egypt. But there are many degrees on the scale between war and peace. A slight, carefully controlled but clear change in our position regarding the war may serve as a catalyst to regenerate the peace process on the one hand and lead to a certain change in Iraqi attitudes on the other.

Israel needs an innovative approach in its policy-making which will use the peace with Egypt in order to broaden the diplomatic horizons. The Egyptians have a clear interest in proving to the rest of the Arab world, as well as to their own internal opposition, that making peace with Israel was justified not only from a separate Egyptian territorial point of view, but also from a wider Arab strategic perspective. That could be achieved were Israel to do something for Iraq in its hour of despair. This "something" should be specified in contacts among Israel, Egypt, and Jordan, which later may spread.

BUT TIME is short. A massive Iranian victory on the Basra front could have grievous implications for the prospects of the peace process. Iran does not have to conquer all of Iraq in order to have it surrender to Khomeinism. Were that to happen, nothing would be left of the peace efforts between Israel and its neighbours but a vain hope.

That danger explains Israel's interest in considering a shift in its Gulf policy. Of course, there is no guarantee that the other sides will respond positively. Nevertheless, we have to try.

In reassessing Israeli interests, Iran should also be taken in consideration, but on the basis of reality,

not fantasy. The belief that once Khomeini dies, Khomeinism will vanish is based on wishful thinking.

If the new Iranian leader is selected after an impressive victory in the war, it is reasonable to assume that the next ruler of Iran would not differ very much from the present one in his policies. There is a tendency not to change successful policies.

On the other hand, if Iran fails to achieve its national goals in the war, it is possible that another wave of repentance would sweep the country – an affirmative answer to preaching that Allah has punished the Iranian people for not being religious enough. This is an assertion which should not sound that strange to some Israelis.

THE TENDENCY among policy-makers in Jerusalem to wait for a return to the good old days of Israeli-Iranian relations is understandable from two points of view.

First, Iranian strategic interests dictate co-operation with Israel. Thus, sooner or later Teheran will change its policy. This is a beautiful argument. Unfortunately, it reflects our own mode of thinking, not theirs. It is not the "objective" interests of Iran – i.e. the interests as we see them – that counts, but rather its "subjective" meaning, i.e. their interests as they themselves see them. And there is no sign that Iranian strategic interests are understood in Teheran as leading to co-operation with Israel.

Second, Iran and Israel are non-Arab nations, and beyond the desire to renew the former good relations, Jerusalem is motivated by a sense of isolation in a hostile region. Indeed, this was the general feeling behind the policy of "periphery alliances" as made by David Ben-Gurion in the Fifties.

But many things have changed since then. We have peace with Egypt, and Iran has developed a Moslem identity, based on fundamentalist ideology according to which Israel is no less than the incarnation of Satan on earth.

Ben-Gurion, who had an accurate sense of reality, would be among the first to change an outworn policy. A statesman never tries to put back the clock. Instead he looks ahead.

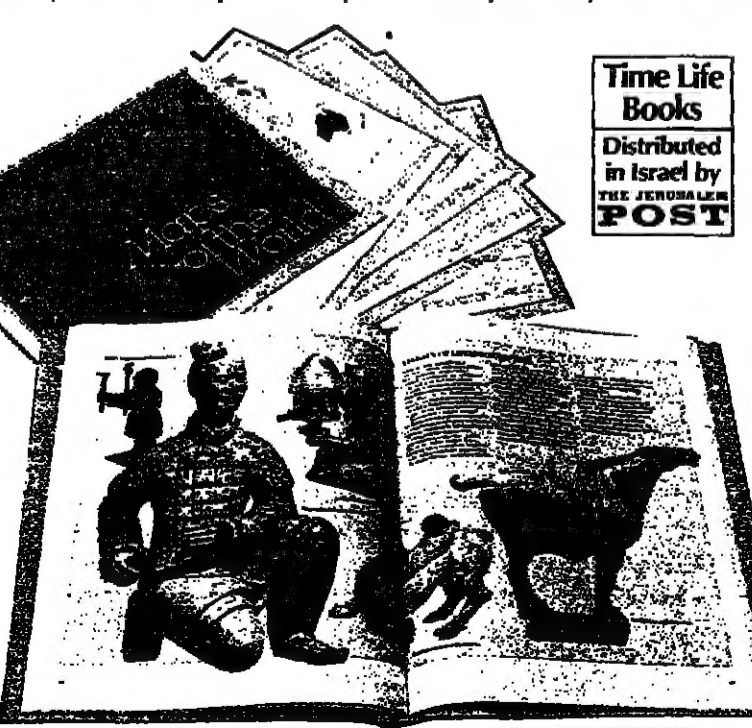
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FEATURES

WE'LL LEAVE the trees, and the dunes, for the end," said Jewish National Fund world chairman Moshe Rivlin at the beginning of our interview. "And you needn't limit your questions to the JNF. I'm ready to talk about Zionism, the Jewish people, Israel-Diaspora relations."

Rivlin, 62, is a seventh-generation Israeli. When he was chosen for his present post 10 years ago this month, he had 18 years of service with the Jewish Agency behind him. After serving as Israeli consul-general in New York from 1952 to 1958, he had joined the Jewish Agency's Information Department, becoming director-general in 1966 under Chairman Aryeh L. Pincus.

In an interview in 1977, shortly after he moved over to the JNF, Rivlin threw out a challenge to the Zionist movement and to Jewish leaders throughout the world. "The entire relationship between Israel and the Jewish People," he said, "urgently needs a thorough reassessment."

The severity of the crisis, he then explained, was most forcefully illustrated by the fact that Jews in several countries, who were on the verge of packing up and emigrating, were not thinking of Israel as their natural destination. This applied to Jews of South Africa, Rhodesia, Latin America, and to so many Jews who succeeded in getting out of the Soviet Union.

Ten years later, Rivlin returns to the theme, only this time substituting Iran for Latin America.

There are two dimensions to Zionism, Rivlin says: rescue and redemption (*geula*). In the first we have succeeded, in the second we have not. The dominant view among Diaspora Jews (those who care about Israel at all) is that Israel is a place for refugees and that their duty is to help it only in this task.

And the Zionist movement acquiesced. Seeking a unifying common denominator, it invested all its energies in "rescue aliyah," from the Arab states, from the Soviet Union, from Ethiopia. To that extent at least, for 30 years the map of Israel was "a map of aliyah," says Rivlin.

BUT ALL that has changed, and not for the better. A new generation has grown up with no idea of what the world was like for the Jews without a State of Israel, a generation that does not regard Israel as the cardinal

ONE OF THE many benefits that the Israeli Festivals brought to Israel is the revolutionary concept that making classical music can be fun. Until the first festival at the beginning of the Sixties, Israelis had always treated music with a profound reverence bordering on idolatry.

It took some years for Israelis to accept the principle that great music can even be gaudy. But now things have changed. *Allegro*, one of the most enjoyable and illuminating series ever made by Israel Television, is really irreverent.

At first, I think, Yitzhak Tzachi Shimon found it hard to adapt to the new philosophy. He is a natural teacher and used to be excessively didactic.

Now he has changed completely. He is relaxed, he unbends, he smiles, he radiates joviality like the jolly green giant.

A great deal of the credit for the change in the atmosphere of *Allegro* must go to conductor Yitzhak Steinberg. Apart from his remarkable good looks, so perfect for a conductor, he exudes bonhomie and a love of music, rather than veneration for it.

The highlight of this week's programme was the singing of various farewells from operas by Robin Weiss-Caputo and Dudu Fisher. They moved as effortlessly from adieu to adieu as Keats' nightingale. It was a delightful performance.

The competitors came from neighbouring kibbutzim, Sa'ad and Bror Hayil. I was amazed by the extent of the knowledge of classical music shown by the settlers from Sa'ad. Somehow I would not have thought that an Orthodox kibbutz was hooked on such music.

Working for Zion

Moshe Rivlin: profile by Aryeh Rubinstein



"The next Zionist Congress, scheduled for the coming December, falls 90 years after Herzl convened the First Zionist Congress at Basle. And it must proclaim Zionism as a movement of aliyah, a movement that sees its main task as the encouragement of aliyah *garinim* (nuclei). Let us establish 90 new *garinim*!"

FOR YEARS the Jewish Agency has been called superfluous, not only by government ministers who see it as impinging on their activities but also by objective observers.

Commenting on this Rivlin explained that the U.S. tax laws cannot be brushed aside. These prescribe that no contribution to a foreign government or a subdivision is tax-deductible. And, of course, the Jewish Agency is non-governmental.

"But despite this reality there must be an ongoing examination of the agency's activities to ensure that there is no duplication. Project Renewal, with its close partnership between donors and receivers, might well serve as a model for future projects."

Even with the limitations of American law, is the Jewish Agency framework really needed for all its present activities?

"If you want a true partnership [with the Diaspora fund-raisers] then the Israel partner can only be a voluntary organization with equal status. If this can be managed by reducing the Jewish Agency's departments from 12 to six, by all means! But the partnership must remain. I am all for a basic examination of what the agency can do better and what the government can do better."

How does Rivlin justify the existing system whereby the Knesset elections also serve to determine the number of delegates each party will have at the next Zionist Congress, and thus the composition of the leaders and department heads of the World Zionist Organization?

Rivlin says that a year ago the Zionist General Council appointed a committee to consider a possible revision of this system. "But of course the committee can do nothing until the Congress meets in December."

What is Rivlin's own stand on the question?

"I must admit that I am of two minds on the matter."

credo. He asked himself - and us - why he had spent all those years in prison, if it was not to get Jews out of the Soviet Union?

I thought that Mendeleich won the debate. But I also thought that both of them ignored the really vital aspect of the problem - how to make Israel so attractive that the Russian Jews will actually want to come here. This applies to all the Diasporas - South Africa, Latin America, North America, Europe.

TWO PEOPLE whose opinions I esteem highly have tangled with me about *MacGyver*, because I wrote favourably about the first episode. They contend that the portrayal of a superhero MacGyver defeating bad guys all over the world with only his fists and wits to aid him is so bad that the series is obviously not targeted at children, but at adults with the minds of delinquent children, and that it is even worse than *Dynasty*.

I think that they are making the mistake of taking the show seriously. I am convinced that it is a take-off on James Bond. Like *The A-Team*, it mocks itself. As proof of my theory, let us consider some of MacGyver's words and deeds.

When his Arab steed neighs indignantly as they are borne aloft on a book hanging from a helicopter, MacGyver comments to the horse, "I agree with you - I also hate heights." That is straight James Bond stuff.

He makes dynamite from sugar, salt and battery acid. I don't believe that this is meant as a recipe for would-be terrorists.

If I am right that it's a spoof, is it a good one? I'm still reserving judgment.

Beating about the bush

The Torah portion for this week is Shemot (Exodus 1:1-6:1)

IT WAS NOT suddenly that Moses was called by God from the burning bush and commissioned to his task. Torah prepares us gradually for this high point. We are told about the unusual (yet not at all mythological) circumstances of the birth of Moses and his upbringing, about his gallant acts in defence of justice and solidarity with his oppressed brethren after he grew up. Not only are we made familiar with the details of the biography of Moses up until his being summoned to his calling, Torah also makes us share in the exact setting and circumstances within which Moses encountered the burning bush.

"Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the farthest end of the wilderness... He gazed, and there was a bush all aflame, yet the bush was not consumed" (Exodus 3:1-2).

The specific occupation of Moses at that time is mentioned in the Torah not so as to fill in a rubric in some obscure form. It is part of the setting that will take us along with Moses to the wonder which was the burning bush. Many a midrash deals with the fact that God trained and tested his chosen shepherds of men by making them first shepherds of sheep. It is this job of tending sheep that teaches one the lessons of patience and compassion, without which one cannot be a leader of humans.

R. Ephraim of Lunshitz, a popular 16th century commentator (*Kli Yakar*, 1602) adds the romantic notion, that it is the environment of the shepherd which qualifies him for prophecy. The open spaces and the bright skies, the solitude and the ample free time for meditation and introspection, give the shepherd more opportunities to encounter the Divine than those given to people in any other profession.

Not only are we told that Moses was a shepherd, but also how he discharged his job. "He led the flock to the farthest end of the wilderness" (an important point omitted in some translations). Why are we told this? Because although they were not his own sheep, but those "of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian," Moses spared himself no effort, even if it meant taking his flock when necessary to the "farthest end of the wilderness."

His great-grandfather Jacob did the same when employed as shepherd by his father-in-law, Laban (Genesis 31:9-40). No matter who the "boss" is, whether he is a shrewd operator like Laban or a prosperous priest like Jethro, one is not allowed to play foul on the job he is entrusted with. Both Jacob and Moses are examples of honest hard-working and extra-loyal employees, even in cases where the employer may not deserve it.

A further reason given by Rashi, following the Midrash, is that Moses "took the sheep to the "farthest end of the wilderness" in order to keep

Tora Today
Pinhas H. Peli

them away from grazing in other people's fields, something which was accepted practice among shepherds and which perhaps Jethro himself would not have minded. According to Jewish law, shepherds, until proven innocent, are not qualified to be witnesses in court, as they are all suspected of robbery, by letting their sheep graze in other people's fields. Even now, special police units, called Green Patrols operate in the Negev, keeping Beduin herds away from privately-owned cultivated green fields.

IT WAS THERE, at "the farthest end of the wilderness," that Moses beholds the strange sight of the bush that burns and burns, but is not burnt.

He was most likely not the first one to pass by the burning bush. He was the first one, however, to notice the wonder and to feel that it was worthwhile to get off the main road and "turn aside" in order to look closely at the "great sight." And when God saw that he was not like most people who have no time or patience to stop their monotonous rush and pay attention to the wonders that fill the world, he called to him out of the midst of the bush: "Moses, Moses!"

Moses replied with the one-word slogan coined by his great-grandfather Abraham, when called by God, *hineni!* Here I am!

NOW, MOSES is ordered to take off his shoes. Many explanations have been offered for the custom of removing one's footwear when in the presence of the sacred. Gunther Plaut (*A Modern Commentary to the Torah*) following Pritchard (Anet) suggests that one must be as clean as possible when in the presence of God and as the shoes accumulate dust and dirt they must be removed. Or, that one should lower one's status in front of God in a gesture of self-abnegation.

Nabum Sarna (in his recently published *Exploring Exodus*) goes into a lengthy discussion as to the nature of the "shoes" mentioned here. Accordingly, "they are most likely sandals, which would have been manufactured either from woven papyrus strips or from a single piece of leather cut to the shape of the foot, and secured to the leg by straps." In Egypt and the Land of Israel, Sarna goes on to explain in his thoroughly researched book, the common folk generally went about barefoot. A person of means would wear sandals outdoors. "In the present scene, it is not clear whether Moses did so after the manner of the Egyptian aristocrat or because the life of the shepherd necessitated the provision of protection from the rugged state of the land and the rigors of the climate."

After all is researched and said

about the sandals and the various "customs" of removing them for this or for that reason (Sarna indeed goes on doing it), it seems that we must resort to Buber, who states, that "a vision so singular, so characteristic, despite certain external analogies, as that of the burning bush, followed by such a conversation... compels us to forsake the pale of literature for that singular region where great personal religious experiences are propagated in ways that can no longer be identified."

Entering the Holy Temple, the priests removed their sandals. Moses was told (as was Joshua later), that being in the presence of the Divine, one must get out of his confined and limited self, one must unlock his routine habitual personality and transcend to a higher level of awareness (take off your shoes - *naalayan* from the same root as *manool*, lock - off your feet - *ragleha*, from the same root as *herge*, habit). At the same time of soaring above to encounter God, one must not forget however that the very same place on which you stand, *hamakom asher attah omed alav*, is holy ground. Godliness is not in removed transcendence, but in the here and now of where we are. If we turn our place into a meeting place with God, it becomes *admat kodesh*, holy ground.

Mitzva, the Jewish way of encountering God, is not in heaven (comp. Deuteronomy 30:11-12), but in the day-to-day realities of this world.

The candidate appearing before the Admissions Committee of the Rabbinical Seminary was awed by the array of famous great luminaries of Judaic studies firing questions at him, for which he was well prepared. His diligent studies in Bible and Talmud did not fail him. Then came in a soft fatherly voice the question of one member of the committee, Rabbi Abraham Heschel: "Suppose you were to go for a week on a secluded desert island, what would you take along with you?" student looked anxiously at Heschel and answered: "Of course, a Bible." After a pause, Heschel continued: "And nothing else?" The candidate caught himself: "Oh, yes... and a Gemara, a tractate of the Talmud!" But Heschel did not let go: "And nothing else?" The candidate was lost in his thoughts then came up triumphantly with the answer he was sure Heschel expected: "Yes, of course, I would take with me a *tallit* and *tefillin* for the daily prayer-service."

At this point Heschel looked at him kindly and said: "All the things you mentioned, are of course necessary, but above all, I think that you must not forget to take along a few sandwiches and a sweater."

While aspiring to rise to heavens of piety and Godliness, one must not forget also the ground upon which one stands. It will always remain ground, not heaven, but it is capable of turning through our acting, into "holy ground."

Funny revolution

Telereview / Philip Gillon

RAM EVRON has evidently decided that summer has come, even though we are still in January. This week, instead of wearing his usual business executive suit, with tie to match, he sported an open shirt and a blue-jeans suit, which looked as if it had been carefully and artificially aged.

His first visitor was the Honduran Ambassador Moshe Starkman, talking away fluently in Hebrew. He had spent several years in Israel, at a kibbutz, at an ulpan and in universities, before entering the diplomatic service.

In these days, when we are coming to accept that the Israeli role in the world - the light that we provide unto the Gentiles - is as merchants of death, it was very rewarding to hear him describing our contribution to Honduran agriculture. Melons, oranges, solar energy, cooperatives - providing help with those kinds of things was what Theodor Herzl had in mind as a justification for creating a Jewish state.

I must mention the Israel Television coverage of President Chaim Herzog's trip to the Pacific. In Fiji he found an Israeli advising on the growing of papaws. A bright young Fijian told us that his country is prepared to defy Arab pressure and hire Israeli agricultural experts.

In Tonga, the TV crew discovered something even stranger than an Israeli adviser in a faraway place

with a strange-sounding name - an Israeli beachcomber. Yehoshua had been travelling around the world when he reached Tonga, and decided that it was well-named "the friendly island." So he has remained there ever since.

Considering that the original ideal of Zionism, as put into practical effect by the social, economic and settlement policies of the Fifties, was to root the population in their own soil, the fact that we seem to be developing a far-flung empire is a very curious phenomenon.

I HAVE left poor Ram Evron waiting on tenterhooks in his blue-jeans suit for me to deal with the rest of his programme. Actually, my diversions were relevant to one of his items, the debate between Yosef Mendeleich the Russian Prisoner of Zion, and MK Uzi Landau, about what our attitude should be towards the Russian Jews assuming that the new Soviet regime agrees to let them emigrate.

Landau was handicapped in the debate, because it was obvious that he was using ideas, slogans and principles that had stood him in good stead for many years. As a result, he sounded rather like a much-read and hackneyed gramophone record.

Mendeleich, on the other hand, had clearly thought long and profoundly about the problem: for him it is the very essence of his life and

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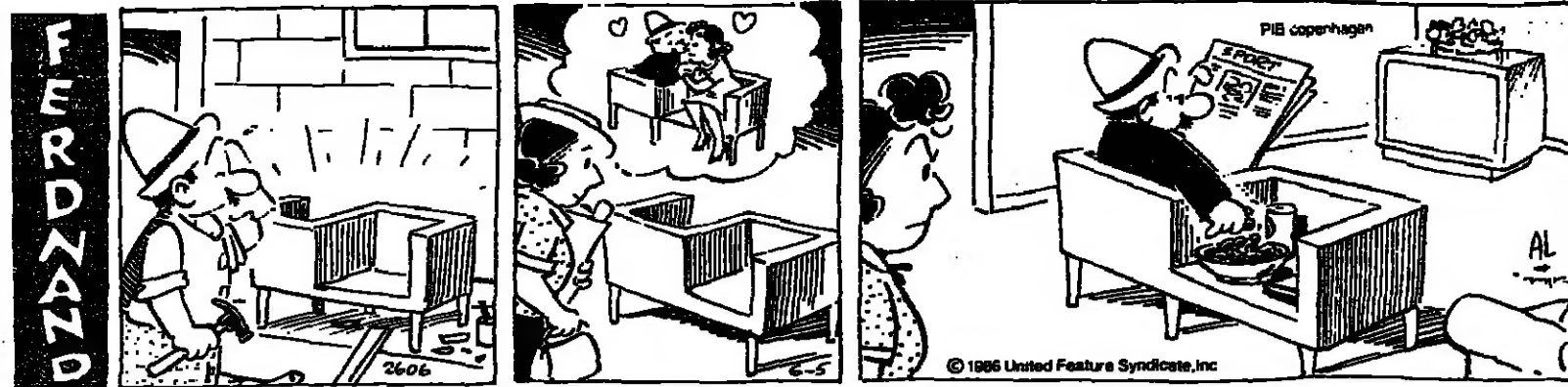
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TO U

'Ethiopia visit'

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ARMED WITH felt pens and workbooks, a gaggle of fifth-graders points into an exhibition hall a few steps from the stark butte of the Beersheba of biblical times. The occasional tourist sees the site as something of a curiosity, flanked as it is by the hard-scrabble Beduin township of Tel Sheva on one side, and on another by the manicured suburbia of Omer. But for the kids, Tel Beersheba is an unusually inviting open classroom, designed specifically to help them learn about each other, and about themselves.

They have come to the Beersheba-sponsored Negev Museum to see an exhibit on the roots and folkways of Ethiopian Jewry. When pupils arrive, they are given a "passport" and "travel diary" workbook, to be filled in as they tour the exhibit in the ethnography hall.

Says the museum director, Noa Tal, "We want the exhibitions here to be something that schoolchildren can both learn from and enjoy. So the workbook and the exhibit were designed from the kids' standpoint, as an imaginary visit to various Jewish communities in Ethiopia."

For some of the pupils, however, the "visit" is more than merely im-

aginary. One day, the ethnography hall played host to a busload of 10-year-olds from Beersheba's polyglot Dalet neighbourhood.

As they studied the photographs of day-to-day village life, an Ethiopian girl called out to her mostly Moroccan classmates. Pointing excitedly to one of the pictures, she proudly showed her friends a former neighbour. Later, another member of the class discovered a cousin in one of the photographs.

Said classmate Rafi Turgeman, "Now we understand lots of things that we never knew before."

Teacher Zohara Barami of Dalet's Eshel Avraham elementary school explains, "All of these children experienced 'on their own hides' as you might say, the absorption process of the kids who came from Ethiopia two years ago. The 'visit to Ethiopia' acquainted them with Jewish life as it was lived there, and I think this has already had a marked effect on their appreciation of their Ethiopian classmates."

THE EXHIBIT, one of a series on Beersheba's multiplicity of ethnic Jewish communities being mounted by the museum, combines a Diaspora Museum photo display with handcrafts on loan from members of the 5,000-strong local Ethiopian population.

"The community has been very



(Beth Hatefutsot)

generous, and has contributed a wide variety of materials, some made here, others brought from Ethiopia," said Tal.

"We were particularly pleased to see that, while these are works of art, they are also still part of people's lives. Last week, for example, a woman who donated an exquisitely embroidered dress came and explained to us that she had to take it back for a short while, because she needed to wear it at a wedding."

Among the more arresting displays is a set of intricate clay figurines whose distended genitals recall those of ancient fertility amulets. The museum's anthropological consultant, Dr. Michael Ashkenazi of Ben-Gurion University, researched the figurines and found their origin to be neither ancient nor, strictly speaking, Ethiopian.

During the 1950s, numbers of foreign tourists began to arrive at Ethiopian Jewish villages. Enterprising villagers, having observed the tourists' evident eagerness to purchase suitable "primitive" African souvenirs, began to manufacture the clay dolls to order, and at a good profit.

THOUGH THE Ethiopian community's response to the exhibition has been generally enthusiastic, some of them have expressed reservations about the choice of photographs. The Diaspora Museum

photos, taken in 1983 by French photographer Frederic Brenner, concentrate on village life in remote regions of Ethiopia.

"There's a problem with the exhibition, actually a problem of the community at large," comments Tal. "The photo exhibit does not include all phases of the Jewish experience in Ethiopia, largely because the photographer sought out the most unusual, most picturesque and unique aspects and, in some ways, the 'simpler,' less modern facets of village life. But many members of Beersheba's Ethiopian community came from a more modern, much more urban environment, and their former way of life is not represented in the photos. And they feel, 'Wait a minute, this isn't us.'"

"In addition, the handicrafts that we see as exceptional art are for some Ethiopians an unpleasant reminder of their status in Ethiopian society. Because of discrimination, making and selling these articles was one of the few avenues of livelihood open to them."

The "Journey to the Jewish Communities of Ethiopia" exhibit runs until the end of the month. The next exhibit, also mounted in conjunction with the Diaspora Museum, will cover the former Jewish communities in Lebanon. The museum is open weekdays until 4:30 and on Fridays and Saturdays until 2:00. The exhibit is closed on Tuesdays.

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JERUSALEM

JERUSALEM GREAT SYNAGOGUE, Friday, Mincha 5:00, Shabbat, Shabbat 8:00, Mincha 4:20. Cantor: Naphthal Herzberg and Jerusalem Great Synagogue Choir conducted by Eli Jaffe.

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JERUSALEM

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ART GUIDE

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JERUSALEM

Museums and Exhibitions

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L.A. MAYER MUSEUM FOR ISLAMIC ART. Visiting hours: Sun-Thurs. 10-11; 3:30-6. Fri. closed. Sat. 10-12. Hapalmach St., Tel. 02-8612912, Bus No. 18.

OLD YISHUV COURT MUSEUM. Life in the Jewish community in the Old City, mid-18th century-World War II, 8 Or Hahaim, Jewish Quarter, Old City. Sun-Thurs., 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

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WHAT'S ON IN HAIFA, dial 04-640546.

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SPORTS

U.S. FOOTBALL

Elway: best bet for an upset

LOS ANGELES (Reuter). — When John Elway spurned an offer to play baseball for the New York Yankees and signed on as quarterback for the Denver Broncos, sports-mad fans in Colorado expected far too much.

The highest-paid player in the National Football League, earning \$900,000 a year, Elway was portrayed as a blond-haired saviour with a rifle arm who would immediately raise the bar and lead the Broncos back to the Superbowl.

When he didn't, Denver fans booed an athlete who had heard nothing but cheers his entire life.

Four years later, Elway has delivered on his promise and is seen as the only man who can prevent the

New York Giants winning Sunday's championship game on the manicured grass of the Rose Bowl in nearby Pasadena.

"The fans got on me a little bit, but that's typical. They wanted a Superbowl team right away and portrayed me as the guy that was going to come in and take them to the Superbowl single-handedly," Elway said.

"That first year was very tough. I went through a lot. But I think it's really helped me to get where we're at right now. I think that game by game, year by year, I've improved. The first year in the league you don't realize it's going to take a while."

Denver Coach Dan Reeves takes part of the blame for pushing his

young star too quickly. "Everybody expected that John would start throwing touchdown passes every time he took the ball back. Our expectations were too high, but also his early expectations were unrealistic," Reeves said.

"Now I think there's just no limit to how far John can go. He's continued to get better and we've won a lot of games in the four years that he's been our quarterback."

New York's Lawrence Taylor, the NFL's Player of the Year, said Elway's scrambling ability and powerful arm would make it a long day for the Giants defence.

"John is an amazing quarterback. He plays hard, he runs the ball very well, and has got to be the best scrambling quarterback in the league. We've got our work cut out trying to contain him," Taylor said.

"He can make a no play into a big play. If we can contain him, we can contain the Broncos."

Taylor and his teammates think it is ridiculous that Las Vegas oddsmakers have made them a nine-point favourite over the Broncos. In the only other meeting between the teams this season, the Giants won 19-16.

"I don't know who these oddsmakers are, but I can't really see us winning by nine points."

Live from Pasadena...

By PAUL KOHN
TEL AVIV. — For the first time in Israel, the fast-growing number of enthusiasts of American football will be able to watch live the Super Bowl between the New York Giants and the Denver Broncos on Sunday night.

"Super Bowl Sunday" will be transmitted as it unfolds to closed circuit screens at the Hilton hotels in Jerusalem and Tel Aviv thanks to the

initiative of Jack Graudenz of Herzliya, a new immigrant from the U.S.

Taking note of the budding interest in American football sparked by Israel Television and Middle East Television broadcasts, the Avni Corporation of California, of which Graudenz is president, purchased exclusive closed-circuit rights to broadcast the game live in this country from the National Football League. Beza will provide the technical services for the satellite downlink through its Enck H's installation.

Hundreds of persons have already booked places for the four-hour show, starting at 11 p.m. The American Embassy here has issued a private room for the broadcast.

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

Two Czechs are as good as gold

MELBOURNE (Reuter). — Martina Navratilova, 30, who says she is usually at her best in finals, poses a formidable threat to Hana Mandlikova's driving ambition to win the Australian Open Tennis championships, because she is seeking Australian citizenship.

The Czechoslovak-born pair both won their semi-final matches yesterday and clash for the 30th time on Saturday when they meet in the final.

Navratilova beat 10th-seeded Catarina Lindqvist, the only Swedish woman ever to reach a Grand Slam singles semi-final, 6-3, 6-2. Mandlikova, 24, overcame a loss of concentration in the second set to defeat West Germany's Claudia Kohde-Kilsch 6-1, 0-6, 6-3 in a rain-interrupted contest.

"It is special to apply for citizenship here and

to be in the final the same year," Mandlikova said. "I feel happy here. I feel at home."

A measure of the task facing Mandlikova is that the world number one and top seed — Australian title winner in 1981, 1983 and 1985 — has won their last nine clashes for a 2-6 career edge. Mandlikova last beat Navratilova in the 1983 U.S. Open.

"I'm able to concentrate a lot better against her now that she is tougher mentally and more confident, because I can get my rhythm," Navratilova said. "I always play my best tennis in finals because the pressure is on."

"I will play my own game," Mandlikova said. "I'll come in and try to put pressure on her."

Navratilova has also progressed to the semi-finals of both the women's and mixed doubles, partnering Pam Shriver and Paul Anacone respectively. Success in all three finals would provide her with her first clean-sweep of titles in a Grand Slam event.

Peter Dinkov and Laurie Warder, Australia (16), 6-1, 3-6, 6-1, 4-6, 10-8.

Men's doubles, semifinals: Stefan Edberg and Anders Jarryd, Sweden (1), 6-2, 6-4, 6-3, 7-6 (7-5), 6-3.

Nicholas gains revenge

LONDON (Reuter). — Charlie Nicholas inflicted painful revenge on Nottingham Forest as English League leaders Arsenal swept into the semifinals of the League Cup on Wednesday night.

Nicholas's gashed knee at Nottingham 23 games ago — his club's last defeat — cost him three months in the Highbury Shadows. But the Scottish international offered Forest undeniable evidence that he is back to his sparkling best by scoring early and having a hand in the second as Arsenal completed a 2-0 win.

Defending champions Liverpool, thanks to Ian Rush's predatory instinct near goal, earned a place in the semifinals at the expense of Everton, who have failed to beat their Merseyside neighbours in five meetings so far this season.

Rush scored the only goal of a keenly contested tie before a crowd of 53,333 at Everton's Goodison Park ground with only six minutes left.

Liverpool will meet the winners of the Southampton-Stoke quarterfinal in next month's Cup semifinals.

Arsenal will go against the winners of the quarterfinal tie between Tottenham and West Ham in the semifinals.

ca's apartheid policies.

A record 150 players are contesting the circuit, with each of the singles-only Masters series tournaments preceded by qualifying events for main draws of 32 men and 16 women. Prizes for the winners, runners-up and semi-finalists include return air tickets to the U.S. and Europe, worth a total of \$3,500.

Winter circuit open

By JACK LEON
TEL AVIV. — The Israel Tennis Association's fifth annual winter circuit for league players inaugurating 10 months of nearly non-stop national and international competition opens this weekend at Petah Tikva's Sportan courts, with play starting at

For artist's studio, help possessing talent in graphics, part time. 02-861572.

Cyprus requires professional and domestic required, 02-533731.

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CRICKET

Lamb battles like a tiger

SYDNEY (AFP). — Man of the match Allan Lamb clinched an exciting win for England over Australia in their World Series Cup game here yesterday, cracking 18 runs off the last over.

England won by three wickets with one ball to spare, making 234 for seven to Australia's 233 for eight.

They needed 18 off Bruce Reid's final over and the magnificent Lamb got them all with a two, four, six, two and four for an unbeaten 77.

England lead the table with two wins from three matches. Australia and the West Indies have one win each.

In Durban, the rebel Australian cricketers were 254 for five in their second innings when they lost to England by 75 runs after 111 overs in their third five-day match against South Africa.

Scores: Australia 214 and 254 for five, South Africa 350.

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Stocks reform stalls in bureaucratic morass

Despite talk, progress is slow – if it exists at all

Pinhas Landau

THE FIRST thing that hits one about the recently-published annual report of the Securities Authority is that it is so very late in appearing.

The introduction to the report is dated December 31, 1986, and it was issued immediately thereafter, and formally presented to the finance minister and the Knesset Finance Committee this week. However, this annual report refers to the 1985/86 year of activity, which ended on March 31, 1986, nine months before the authority's chairman, Eliezer Shiloni, penned his remarks.

There is more than a little irony in this, because one of the authority's tasks is to ensure that companies whose shares are registered for trading on the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange file their annual reports within 120 days of the close of their business year.

In fact, the authority's review includes precise details of the number of cases of late-filing and the steps that were taken against the transgressors. Some of these cases went to court, and the authority recently created a precedent when a company and its boss were fined for failure to meet the deadline set in the law.

The Securities Authority itself is not subject to any time-limit regarding the appearance of its annual report, as are public companies. But it is worth noting that parallel publication of the authority's report, the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange (Tase) issued a thorough statistical review of activities on, around and within the exchange – for the period ending December 31, 1986. This was about as near to real-time as one could get, and it shows what can be done with a little effort.

THE THEME of delay is one that recurs throughout the report. The Securities Authority is a state body, headquartered in Jerusalem, which was set up to oversee the application of the Securities Law of 1968 and the Mutual Funds Law of 1961.

Several commissions in the past few years have recommended major changes in various parts of these laws, in order to expand the legal framework covering the securities industry and the capital markets. These were, of course, the result of the double disaster of 1983, namely, the collapse of the free share market in January, and then the even more traumatic bank-share collapse in October.

In their wake came the Gabbai

Committee, headed by Justice Ministry director-general Meir Gabbai – who is scheduled to replace Shiloni on April 1. This committee made proposals regarding the desired changes in the legal framework of the capital market. There was also the Shiloni Committee, which covered the field of mutual funds. And there was the Bejski Commission itself, which made a great number of proposals about all areas of securities trading, including the roles of the Tase and the Securities Authority.

BUT, notes Shiloni sadly, all these proposals from all these committees and wise men are still stuck in the bureaucratic morass. Still more committees, including those of ministers, Knesset members, outside experts, and government officials, are mulling over the work of the first lot of committees.

The actual output, in terms of new laws on the statute book, is so far zero.

Shiloni doesn't labour the point, but the amount of time involved in this process is turning out to be incredibly long. The crashes were three to four years ago and the committees were set up over the next two years, and reported between one and two years ago.

Yet the process seems to be slowing down rather than moving rapidly to a conclusion. In the meantime, as is abundantly clear from day-to-day events, the need for new legislation is increasing.

SIMILARLY, the Securities Authority chairman complains again – as he does at every opportunity, and rightly so – that his operation suffers all the time from its lack of teeth. Although he lists at length the numerous activities undertaken by his staff with regard to legal initiatives, investigation and enforcement, this is more bravado than *tachlis*. The bottom line is still poor, although admittedly a considerable improvement on what it used to be. The fact that Shiloni did not repeat his old complaint about lack of resources shows that things have improved in this respect, and this is borne out by the report.

But if the manpower available and the determination to act are greater than they used to be, there are still two other major problems. One is that, pending the passage of new legislation that will give the authority greater authority, it lacks the ability to achieve anything very significant.

The law about price manipulation, for instance, is still in the same

wooly state it has always been, and it will remain almost impossible to get convictions without laws that both empower the authority to act and enable it to present a water-tight case in court.

At the moment, there are many areas where only limited action is permitted and many others where even that limited action cannot produce the conviction of violators. In this context, the judgment against the company that failed to publish its results was the exception that proves the rule.

THE OTHER issue that Shiloni raises is well-known from many other walks of Israeli life. This is that even if the authority does obtain and deploy the manpower needed to catch offenders, and even if it can make a case under the current legal provisions that might stick in court, the sheer length of the legal process makes the whole exercise virtually a dead letter.

The delays occur all along the line: when the authority passes its findings along to the prosecutors' offices, it will be an age before they are taken up and charges prepared. A further case can elapse before the trial gets underway. And an eternity must pass before the verdict is eventually handed down.

Since one of the main purposes of these laws is their deterrent power, and since the system is subject to these inordinate delays, it is clear that the objective is being missed.

Or, in Shiloni's words, "without vigorous treatment of the cases by bringing charge sheets, and without more rapid hearing of the cases in the courts, deterrence will not be achieved."

This is probably the most important of the points that Shiloni raises; but the phrase that recurs most often is "unsatisfactory pace." One thing after another is described as occurring at an unsatisfactory pace, and this perhaps highlights a much broader and more fundamental problem of the Israeli economy.

Despite all the talk of the need for reform, despite the crashes, scandals and dramas, despite, even, the committees and commissions that investigate, consider and propose – despite all these, progress is appallingly slow, if it exists at all.

And why? Because the government and all its agencies, which together constitute that slothful, inefficient and inept monster known by the catch-all term "bureaucracy," really is all those things, and by all the evidence is becoming more so, rather than less.

Therefore the grand talk of reforms, in the present context of the capital markets, but by extension everywhere else as well, will come up against the harsh reality of bureaucratic indifference, which must almost always win out by virtue of its capacity to kill things by doing nothing about them.

EVEN THE supporters of the

"progress through crisis" theory should read and ponder carefully the brief, but thorough, reports of the Securities Authority. It is impossible to conceive of greater crises than those lived through by the Israeli capital markets in recent years, and these should – according to the theory – have been more than enough to sweep away the encrusted resistance to change.

Yet almost nothing has been done, at least at the governmental level. The Tase itself has done quite a lot in its own patch. The Securities Authority, insofar as it has some limited degree of independence, has done what it could within those constraints.

But what could have been expected of it, given those constraints? And how right Shiloni is, therefore, in demanding that the chairman of the authority be appointed by the whole government, with a standing on a par with that of the governor of the Bank of Israel, instead of by the finance minister; that its budget should be determined by the Knesset Finance Committee, not the Treasury; and that it should be able to propose legislation directly.

But the rest of the system – the Treasury, the Justice Ministry, the courts, and the links between them – seem to form an impenetrable barrier to change.

Is it hopeless, or would another crash on the scale of 1983 – or maybe bigger – succeed in moving things?

How to build a bodyguard empire

Fighting terrorists gives Israel a big edge

Simon Louison

ISRAELI bodyguards for your personal safety? runs the ad – "extensive international experience with top personalities." Placed in the classifieds of the *International Herald Tribune*, the ad gives an address in Tel Aviv's Rehov Ben Yehuda.

Boss of Benital International Security Ltd., Beni Tal, a heavily-built 31-year-old, isn't someone who you would push in front of you in a queue. He set up his bodyguard business in 1979 after a spell in the army, where he disclosed he reached rank of captain and acquired certain skills. There was no one else in the people-protection market in which he wanted to specialize.

Today, because of international terrorism and Israel's reputation in counter-terrorist activities, business is booming. He has over 200 full-time staff and stresses the "professionalism" of his organization, that he works within the law and, in most cases, with the full cooperation of the local police.

Tal decries what he calls the Italian approach to his type of work – numerous cars in attendance and bodyguards riding shotgun at the windows – which is almost completely ineffective, he says.

Periodically, business is boosted by the activities of international terrorist groups, such as the recent slaying

of the Renault head, Georges Besse in France which prompted him to place the ad in the *Tribune*.

Most clients – nearly all are wealthy – and many are multinational corporations – want protection from either terrorism or kidnapping.

And how much does protection cost? Each case is different, but a bodyguard costs \$200 a day plus expenses. Usually, when an inquiry is made, Benital draws up an initial security plan for the clients and his family, at a cost of around \$5,000 plus expenses. An assessment is then made of the plan and a decision taken on the continuing protection requirements.

Tal says his firm's prices are about double its European competitors' because of the "Israeli factor". His men, aged 22-30, have at least 3-6 years previous experience gained from service in special units in the Israeli Defence Forces or with the police anti-terrorist unit. They have all attended the obligatory government-run six-month security course which trains people in special security methods.

Israel's non-stop involvement in Lebanon and with terrorism gives its bodyguard business the edge, says Tal. Security measures, like machinery, can become obsolete. He claims that many bodyguards in the international arena are Vietnam veterans most of whom haven't seen action for more than 12 years.

IN ADDITION to their initial train-

ing, Benital requires his men to attend a gym and he supervises twice-monthly physical and weapons training sessions.

Not only are all Tal's staff young, they must also remain single. "When they are married, they start to think about their wife and what will happen to the children. I don't allow fear to enter their lexicon," he says.

Tal is proud of the fact that not only have none of his clients ever been hurt but that only twice have his men been seriously injured.

"When someone is hurt it's bad for my business and in both cases where my man was injured, the VIP escaped and the attackers were caught and sent to jail."

Apart from the martial arts, Benital men protect themselves and their clients with either Belgian FN's, the Bodyguard 38mm Smith and Weston or Israel's own Uzi sub-machine gun. Bullet-proof garments are provided but not favoured because they inhibit movement.

Tal says that information is far more important for successful protection than physical protection. He maintains an information network through close, but informal cooperation with police and intelligence bodies and in some cases close with the underworld. He has very close contacts with Israel's police and in many European countries information can easily be bought, even from police sources.

To ensure their cooperation, Tal seeks police approval for each secur-

ity plan. Usually they are willing, because Benital is doing the dangerous and dirty work that they are not keen to do themselves.

Tal is reluctant to reveal his clients' names for fear of upsetting his delicate relationships with other clients. He did, however, give an account of a successful operation.

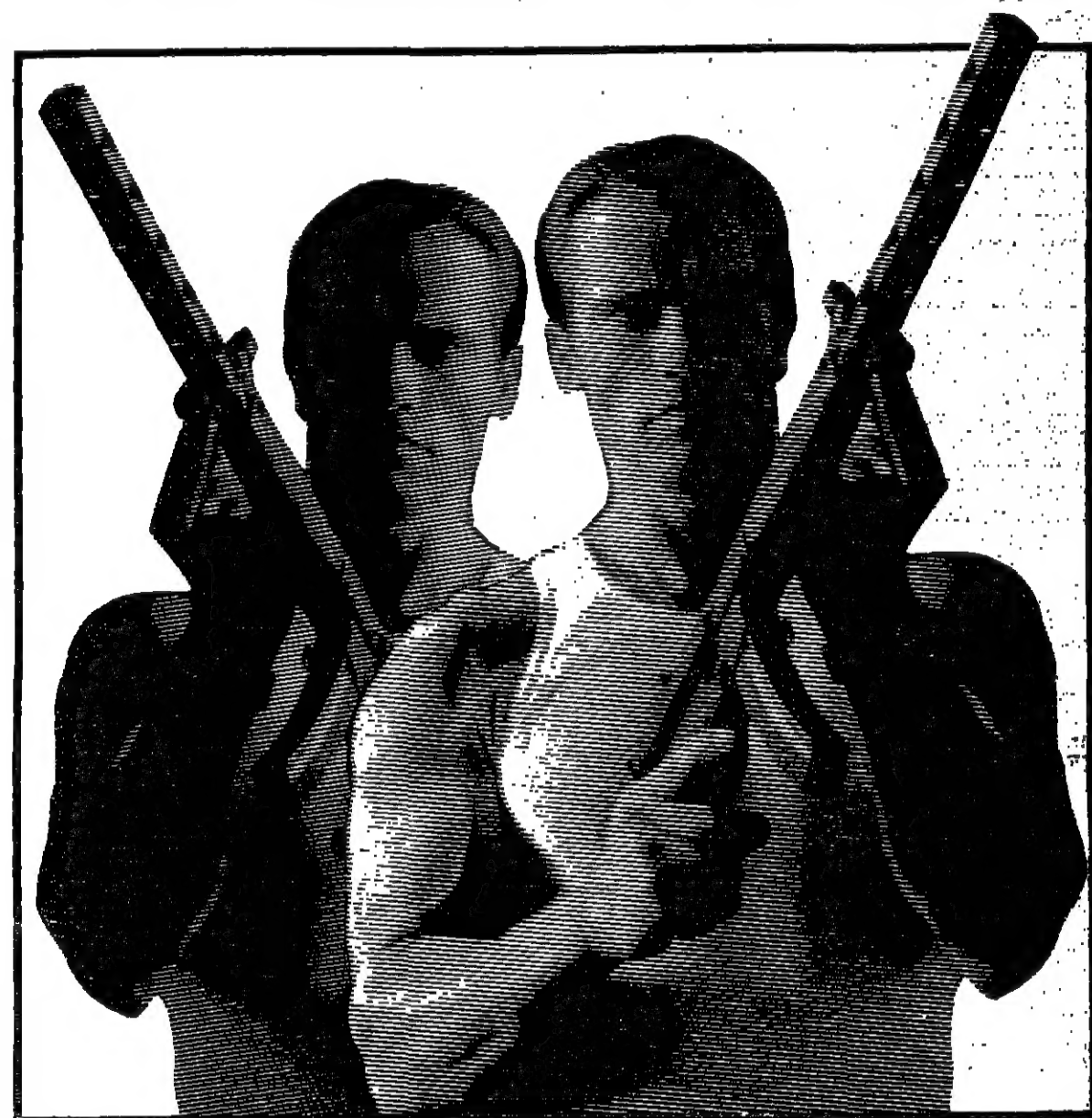
After a security operation had been set up around the client's house, a "mafia" team of four arrived on foot, armed with a high-powered rifle. Using electronic detection systems, on which Benital heavily relies, the hit-team was surprised by a 10-man security force armed with Uzis. The mafia boss was then telephoned and warned off before the police were called in.

Most of Benital's European clients are in Italy, France, Germany, Spain and England. Work also comes from the Philippines, Thailand and South Africa. There is little work in the U.S. because of the lack of terrorism and the existence of American firms. Latin America is rejected because of its political instability and the lack of reliable information sources.

Within Israel, Tal has many rich clients including Flatto Sharon, Tel Aviv's mayor Shlomo "Chich" Lahat needed protection when someone took out a \$60,000 "contract" on him.

Tal never tires of his work. "I like the job – every case is different, new people, new problems. Its inside you."

"When you solve a problem and you make things quiet, it's wonderful."



Providing aid for all ages

Beverlee Black

ELISHEVA SHALEV, our liaison at the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, met with us again this past week and told us she has received requests from municipalities and institutions asking for additional aid for children. This only emphasizes the fact that the Toy Fund needs your support all year round.

A lesson in the joy of giving can be taught at a very early age, as we see in the many *Tzedaka* funds collected by classes in religious schools in our listing today.

Through a contribution we received this week, we discovered that Dr. Heidi Frankfurter, one of our most loyal supporters, has just celebrated her 85th birthday. We would like to wish her a happy birthday – till 120.

New cuts in government spending will undoubtedly affect services to the aged. More money will have to be found to help support important programmes such as dental treatment, heating, home help, transportation for medical care, etc., and we will need to contribute a lot more towards the maintenance of these and other services.

No matter how much money is raised for the funds, there is never enough to do all that we would like, so please keep on giving and help us to do more.

Mail your cheques today to The Jerusalem Post Funds, P.O.B. 81, 10100, Jerusalem.



NIS 150 In memory of my father, Sava Wajnstein – Beit Wajnstein, Tel Aviv.
NIS 100 Norman and Phyllis Rudy, Ramat Hasharon.
NIS 60 From the Hanukkah gift of our son Raanan Shabtian – Sheftman family, Kiryat Beit.
NIS 40 In memory of our little brother Eyal, who loved Hanukkah – Dan and Amit Ron, Ramat Hasharon.
NIS 30 W.G. Givratayim.
NIS 30 In memory of our beloved sons Amel and Rafi.
NIS 25 In honour of all our children – Anne and Jack Wolf, Netanya. In memory of Fritz Goldschmidt – Rita and Egon Oshchinsky, Jerusalem.
NIS 20 Beate David, Herzliya B.
NIS 18 In honour of our five granddaughters.

Noga, Tamar, Lior, Shelly and Nisan – Nancy and David Fourier, Haifa. Anonymous, Jerusalem.
NIS 15 Gloria Cravitt, Tel Aviv. Matilda Bronstein, Tel Aviv.
NIS 10 Mrs. Golda Galinsky, London. Rafael Neumann, Haifa.
NIS 10 On behalf of my daughter Tenne – Emma Kinner, Haifa.
NIS 75 Paul and Roselyn Krensky, Lexington, MA.
NIS 200 Irving Shore, Boca Raton, FL.
NIS 125 The Lachmont Israeli Investment Club, Larchmont, NY.
NIS 100 In honour of my grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Yehuda V. Yall Chavurim, Congregation Bet Breir, Miami, FL. In honour of our son Adam and in memory of his great-grandfather Chaim David and Yosef Yitzchak – Stuart Blander and Peri Rosenfeld, Brooklyn, NY.
NIS 50 Five times Haifa in honour of Mr. and Mrs. Sidney Cantor, Silver Spring, MD. Mr. and Mrs. Ricky Cantor, Rockville, MD. Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Kishner, Montvale, VA. Dr. and Mrs. Len Cohen, Fortney, VA. and Mrs. Rebecca Meiman, Silver Spring, MD. Their children and grandchildren Bobbi, Richard, Debra and Jonathan, Roanoke, VA.
NIS 100 In honour of my grandparents Mr. and Mrs. Max Herzog of Montreal, Canada – Jack Herzog, Penn Valley, VA.
NIS 50 Harry and Lore Bauer, Lawrence, NY. Paul and Gertrude Meisbach, New York, NY. Rigberg Family Club, Cherry Hill, NJ. Dennis L. Fick and Edna Kram-Fick, Fort Wayne, IN.
NIS 30 Robert and Judith Grauman, New York, NY. In honour of the 4th anniversary of Hebe and Betty Grayson – Karen, Richard, Adam and Elana Grayson, New Rochelle, NY.
NIS 25 Mr. and Mrs. Maury Novak, San Diego, CA. In honour of our many friends in Israel – Stuart, Bobbi, David and Rachel Handwerker, Durham, NC. In honour of our granddaughter Sarah Goldberg-Leinwand – Elaine and Jack Goldberg, Royal Palm Beach, FL. On the occasion of the birth of our daughter Devorah Malka – Dawn and Sandy Margolin, CA. From Zaki, Shoshana, Benjamin and Simcha Goldberg, Austin, TX. In memory of my grandparents Isaac and Leah – Sidney Reiner, Longwood, FL.
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MARKET PLACE

ALVER CARLSON

Flexing muscle

Armed with the debt initiative proposed by U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker, the World Bank is increasingly flexing its economic muscle in an attempt to head off the global debt crisis, economic analysts say.

The new efforts by the bank, its role reduced as a development agency that helps Third World countries build roads and other basic underpinnings of civilization as it gives more emphasis to debt management, are being seen in a number of countries.

The lightning rod for the new efforts, according to the analysts, is bank president Barber Conable, and activist during his time in congress, who thinks the bank must help solve the debt crisis to carry on its development work.

"Unless it (the debt) is dealt with in some rational way, it will not permit us to sustain development," he says.

As proposed by Baker some 15 months ago, the development banks would be provided more funds to assist countries toward growth-oriented policies with the World Bank given more influence in this effort.

The proposal was based on the belief that debtor countries had tightened their belts enough since the debt crisis emerged in 1982 and that there would be little real progress unless their economies could be made to flourish.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) would still continue to approve economic packages tailored for each country that included financial assistance but it would cooperate directly with the bank in formulating the assistance.

Traditionally, the IMF, as monitor of the international monetary system, provided short-term balance of payments assistance to help countries keep accounts balanced.

A domino effect quickly developed in countries throughout Latin America as banks began to question the stability of other heavily indebted economies in the region.

At the same time, it was apparent that debt problems were not limited to Latin America.

The fragile economies of Africa, for instance, were awash in debt that far outdistanced their apparent ability to keep up with their payments.

In the period that followed, the IMF, using its much famed case-by-case approach, managing to keep the indebted countries from stepping up and declaring default.

Such an event would have a major impact on creditor banks, including many in the U.S.

More recently, the major players in the debt crisis, including Mexico and Brazil, have continued to have problems despite some improvement for a while.

The World Bank, according to sources, was a close and active player in recent negotiations to get an IMF programme and new funding for Mexico.

The IMF programme differed from previous country loan packages in that it provided for additional funding, some from banks, to be put up if Mexico didn't meet certain economic growth targets, or if the price of oil, its major export, fell below a certain figure.

Other countries facing the same sort of debt problems as Mexico immediately said they would like to have the same sort of loan programme for themselves. The most recent programme, the IMF, agreed to be for Argentina, which Conable made clear the bank not only favoured but was backing with \$2 billion in new loans over the next two years. (Reuters)

Soviets to cut oil output by 7 per cent

OSLO (Reuters). - Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Hisham Nazer said yesterday the Soviet Union has agreed to cut its oil exports by 7 per cent to back Opec-led efforts to maintain oil prices at around \$18 a barrel.

Nazer was speaking to reporters on his arrival in Norway from Moscow.

The Saudi minister has been touring the three non-Opec nations, which jointly produce some 14 million barrels per day (BPD).

Egypt agreed on January 15 to cut its output by 70,000 BPD. Norway, a major North Sea producer, has already announced it would cooperate with Opec by cutting production by 7.5 per cent for the first six months of 1987.

TURKISH COMPANIES will build resort hotels in the Soviet Union as part of a programme to expand economic relations, a Turkish foreign ministry official said.

A Soviet delegation is on a 10-day visit to Turkey to see hotels along the Mediterranean coast and in Western Turkey, said the official.

During Prime Minister Turgut Ozal's visit to Moscow last August, the Soviets agreed to allow Turkish contractors to bid for projects in the Soviet Union worth \$50 million, he said.

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Gerald Ronson. (Hänoch Grünmann)



Meshulam Riklis. (Andre Bruttman)

Prominent Jews in 'Guinnessgate'

By DAVID HOROVITZ

JERUSALEM POST CORRESPONDENT
LONDON. - Multi-millionaire Jewish businessman Gerald Ronson, chairman of one of Britain's largest private companies, this week dropped a new bombshell into the Guinness shares scandal that is engulfing the country's financial community.

In a letter that made headlines in all the country's major newspapers yesterday, Ronson, one of Britain's wealthiest men, admitted that his Heron International group received almost six million pounds in fees and expenses from Guinness last year in a possibly illegal share deal.

The letter, to Guinness's new chairman, stated that Ronson did not initially see anything wrong in accepting the payments, but that he now realized it would have been better for him not to have done so.

Accordingly, he wrote, he was returning the money.
Ronson, 47, is a vice president of Britain's Joint Israel Appeal, and he accompanied Prime Minister Thatcher on her visit to Israel last spring. During her visit, Thatcher dedicated an Ort school in Ashkelon, paid for by the Ronson Foundation, in Ronson's father's name.

Ronson's Heron company was paid the six million pounds to support Guinness's hotly-contested bid to take over the Distillers Scotch whisky giant.

Heron purchased 25 million pounds worth of Guinness shares in the closing days of the takeover battle, after an approach from "a representative of eminent brokers acting for Guinness."

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Ronson's Heron company was paid the six million pounds to support Guinness's hotly-contested bid to take over the Distillers Scotch whisky giant.

Heron purchased 25 million pounds worth of Guinness shares in the closing days of the takeover battle, after an approach from "a representative of eminent brokers acting for Guinness."

The letter, to Guinness's new chairman, stated that Ronson did not initially see anything wrong in accepting the payments, but that he now realized it would have been better for him not to have done so.

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In move to shore up dollar

Germany cuts interest rates

FRANKFURT (Reuters). - West Germany bowed to global pressure yesterday and announced a cut in interest rates to try to halt the latest fall of the dollar, just hours after Japan apparently failed to get the U.S. to help do that.

The Bundesbank (central bank) said it would cut its key discount rate to 3.0 per cent today from 3.5 per cent and its less important Lombard rate to 5.0 per cent from 5.5 per cent.

But currency markets had discounted the move and the dollar ended the day here at 1.8145 marks, down on 1.8485 Wednesday.

Japan's Jiji press agency has said Japan will cut interest rates next week. Both Switzerland and Austria followed the German move and cut their rates from 4 to 3.5 per cent.

Bundesbank President Karl Otto Poehl angrily told a news conference that the U.S. was "playing with fire" in talking the dollar down in its effort to narrow its huge trade deficit.

European Community President Jacques Delors accused the U.S. of blackmail.

In a blistering attack in the European Parliament in Strasbourg, he said the dollar's fall was straining the global monetary system and exacerbating EC-U.S. trade tensions.

"It is impossible for Europe to carry on with this blackmail inherent in the fall of the dollar," Delors said.

The dollar has nosedived in the past month against the currencies of nations with hefty trade surpluses, chiefly West Germany's mark and Japan's yen.

The Reagan administration, facing a tide of protectionist sentiment in a Democrat-led congress, apparently feels the simplest solution to a U.S. trade deficit, estimated at \$170 billion last year, is to let the dollar slide to make U.S. exports more competitive. That is hurting the West German and Japanese economies.

New dollar weakness was precipitated yesterday by news that in Washington on Wednesday night the Japanese finance minister, Kiichi Miyazawa, failed to obtain an explicit pledge to support the dollar in crisis talks with U.S. Treasury Secretary James Baker.

On income tax returns, he said only 17 per cent of the population submit them compared with 100 per cent in the U.S. and other Western countries.

"Every self-employed Israeli will buy and sell on the stock market in the name of a salaried relative who does not have to file an income-tax report," Baron said.

He said the ministry intended to simplify the 80-second-long income-return tax form this year, so that by next year every Israeli could file a return without having to consult an accountant.

The Histadrut erred when it pressured the government into abandoning its plan to eliminate tax exemptions, Baron said, because those who benefit the most from tax exemptions are the high-income groups who can afford the advice of accountants.

Yisrael Baron, the Treasury official in charge of State Revenue Administration income, told reporters yesterday that the reforms originally proposed by Finance Minister Moshe Nissim would have simplified the tax system, eliminated income tax distortions and given lower income groups higher net pay.

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FINANCIAL DATA: ISRAEL, EUROPE, U.S.

ISRAEL MONEY MARKETS

SHEKEL INTEREST RATES
PRIME BORROWING RATE: 1.58% per month
Unlinked Deposit (Annual Rates)

	Last Updated	Tapas	Pakam 7-Day	Pakam 30-Day
LEUMI	22.1	8-17.75%	9-18.25%	12-21.25%
HAPOALIM	12.1	8-16.00%	8-17.50%	14-21.21%
DISCOUNT	17.12	7-16.00%	8-16.20%	14-18.50%
MIZRAHI	1-12	8-17%	8-17.50%	8-18.50%
FIRST INT'L	13.1	10-16%	11-17.7%	10-20.04%

Rates vary according to size of deposit.
(Tapas: demand deposit paying daily interest.
Pakam: fixed-term deposit available from 7 to 59 days.)

PATAH — FOREIGN CURRENCY DEPOSIT RATES (January 22)

USD (\$100,000)	3-MONTHS	6-MONTHS	12-MONTHS
STG (10,000 pounds)	5.375	5.375	5.375
DMK (100,000 marks)	9.250	9.125	9.125
SFR (50,000 francs)	3.375	3.375	3.500
YEN (3,000,000 yen)	2.625	2.375	2.375

Rates vary according to size of deposit and are subject to change.

SHEKEL FOREIGN EXCHANGE RATES (January 22)

Currency basket	1	CHEQUES AND TRANSFERS	1	BANKNOTES	1	Rep. Rates
U.S.A. Dollar	1.6570	Buy	1.6570	Buy	1.6570	1.6570
Deutsche Mark	1.8055	1.8055	1.8055	1.8055	1.8055	1.8055
Pound Sterling	2.4620	2.4620	2.4620	2.4620	2.4620	2.4620
French Franc	0.2840	0.2837	0.2840	0.2837	0.2840	0.2837
Japanese Yen	1.0535	1.0535	1.0535	1.0535	1.0535	1.0535
Dutch Florin	0.7818	0.7814	0.7818	0.7814	0.7818	0.7814
Swiss Franc	1.0514	1.0545	1.0514	1.0545	1.0514	1.0545
Swedish Krona	0.2465	0.2496	0.2465	0.2496	0.2465	0.2496
Norwegian Krone	0.2272	0.2300	0.2272	0.2300	0.2272	0.2300
Danish Krone	0.2323	0.2352	0.2323	0.2352	0.2323	0.2352
Finnish Mark	0.3524	0.3558	0.3524	0.3558	0.3524	0.3558
Canadian Dollar	1.1736	1.1882	1.1736	1.1882	1.1736	1.1882
Australian Dollar	1.0596	1.0728	1.0596	1.0728	1.0596	1.0728
S. African Rand	0.7795	0.7882	0.7795	0.7882	0.7795	0.7882
Belgian Franc	0.4248	0.4301	0.4248	0.4301	0.4248	0.4301
Austrian Shilling	10	1.2528	1.2684	1.2528	1.2684	1.2528
Italian Lira	1000	1.2401	1.2555	1.2401	1.2555	1.2401
Jordanian Dinar	1	—	—	—	—	—
Egyptian Pound	1	—	—	—	—	—
ECU	1	1.8182	1.8409	1.8182	1.8409	1.8182

SUPPLIED BY BANK LEUMI

EUROPEAN FINANCIAL MARKETS

(January 22)

Precious Metals				
GOLD:	LONDON A.M. FIX	410.80	P.M. FIX	410.45
	PARIS NOON FIX	410.42	ZURICH P.M. FIX	411.35
SILVER:	LONDON FIX	554.10		
PLATINUM:	LONDON P.M.	528.00		
PALLADIUM:	LONDON P.M.	124.85		

FOREIGN CURRENCY CROSS RATES (London 15.30GMT)

Forward Rates (January 22)				
DEUTSCHMARK	SPOT	2 MTHS	3 MTHS	6 MTHS
POUND STERLING	1.8130/45	55/52	81/78	157/152
SWISS FRANC	1.5325/35	120/118	180/178	368/362
JAPANESE YEN	1.5225/35	67/62	99/94	185/175
FRENCH FRANC	122.15/25	32/50	72/70	137/132
ITALIAN LIRA	6.6050/25	330/355	560/590	1000/1040
DUTCH GILDER	1295.25/00	875/950	1350/1450	2675/2800
BELGIAN FRANC	2.0450/60	21/17	35/30	79/71
DANISH KRONA	37.655/65	14/17	19/23	32/37
SAFARIAN RAND	6.8870/95	430/470	650/700	1250/1300
FINNISH MARK	0.4855/62	30/23	24/19	80/70
AUSTRALIAN DOLLAR	1.1362/67	27/23	38/33	73/65
NORWEGIAN KRONA	4.5310/30	525/565	775/825	1600/1700
NEW ZEALAND DOLLAR	0.6608/15	86/83	123/118	213/207

Formula for determining forward rates:
high/low (eg. 220/210) — deduct from spot price.
low/high (eg. 210/220) — add to spot price.

NEW YORK FINANCIAL MARKETS

U.S. MONEY RATES

Prime 7.50%; Broker 7.25%; NY Euro 3 months 6 1/4-1 1/4%; Fed Funds late 6 1/4%
NEW YORK FOREIGN EXCHANGE

PREVIOUS CLOSE	DMK	SFR	STG	YEN	CAN
OPENING	1.8400/10	1.5435/45	1.5225/35	153.70/80	1.3568/73
LATEST	1.8150/80	1.5220/35	1.5345/55	151.75/85	1.3567/72
	1.8145/65	1.5215/30	1.5290/00	151.85/95	1.3562/68

ISRAELI STOCKS

TRADED IN NEW YORK:

NYSE and ASE	Last	Prev. Close	High	Low	Vol ('00s)
Alliance	20	20	20	20	7
Am Int Pap	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4	1 1/4	43
Eladint	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4	2 1/4	111
Etl Lavud	10 1/4	10 1/4	10 1/4	10 1/4	12
Laser Inds	13 1/4	12 1/4	13 1/4	12 1/4	111

Over the counter

ISRAELI STOCKS									
TRADED IN NEW YORK									
LAST					BID				
ASK					LAST				
Bank Leumi					Interpharm				
Elbit					Oprotech				
ECI Tel.					Rada				
Elron					Scitex				
Fibronics					Teva-Vit				
IDB Bank					Tevapharm				
IIS					SPI				

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Treasury's strike

TROUBLE in the health system? Administrative and maintenance workers in state hospitals are angry because a government pledge to equalize their wages with those of their counterparts in Kupat Holim has not been made good. Drag your feet, and then drag them again until the cows come home. That, at least for a start, is considered the best remedy by the quack doctors at the Treasury.

But what if the remedy, as it were, backfires? Then, indeed, there is trouble. Then you do something, or other.

The strike of hospital workers, which started on Monday, should never have occurred. Over a decade ago the government set up a mechanism designed precisely to prevent such strikes. It set up a committee under the then director-general of the Health Ministry, Prof. Baruch Padeh, to ensure equality of pay between Kupat Holim and state hospital workers. The committee, staffed by representatives of the Treasury, the Health Ministry, the Histadrut, the hospital workers and the Civil Service Commission, is a permanent body.

Whenever the Treasury so wishes, however, the panel is frozen into inactivity. For it cannot be convened without its chairman agreeing, and the chairman, who is the nominee of the Civil Service Commission, defers to the higher wisdom of the Treasury.

During the past year or so there have been increasingly audible rumblings of discontent among state hospital workers about what struck them as their growing failure to catch up with Kupat Holim salaries. The sick fund was getting some government help to ease its financial distress, which allowed it also to reward its badly paid hospital employees. But the government was not doing the same for the people who keep its own hospitals clean and orderly.

Only when the rumblings spelled the approach of a strike did the Padeh Committee meet, ten days ago. It is still not clear what the practical outcome was, if any, except for a statement by the chairman to the effect that the committee would not just rubber-stamp the workers' demands.

"They've made fun of us," was the workers' reaction, and a strike became virtually inevitable. When it started, four days ago, the strikers vowed not to return to work unless and until the Padeh Committee met to consider their demands in earnest.

The Treasury took it nonchalantly at first. With horrific tales of suffering by patients, especially the aged ones, spreading through the media, the finance minister unctuously denied that the workers had a case, and promised to have it examined only once the strike ended. The Treasury's director of wages, in a personal contribution to the settlement of the crisis, suggested publicly that the strikers' true purpose was to undermine the authority of the Padeh Committee.

On Wednesday the Treasury, against the wishes of the Health Minister, obtained an injunction from the Jerusalem Labour Court requiring the strikers to promptly go back to work. They refused to budge.

It was only when the news came, at noon yesterday, that the Padeh Committee would go into session the same day, that the hospital workers relented. But not before threatening to resume — and intensify — the strike if the committee failed to deliver the goods by next Monday night.

The committee is plainly not bound by the ultimative deadline. It must conduct its probe of the workers' demands with deliberate but not undue haste. Some of the demands may well be unjustified: such, plainly, is the insistence on including overtime in the calculation of a pension which, unlike Kupat Holim's, is budgetary. But the committee must not obfuscate the issue simply for fear that an objective examination will cost the Treasury money. Precise figures of its own hospital workers' earnings should be obtained from Kupat Holim which, inexplicably, has so far failed to supply them.

Let the chips fall where they may. But further footdragging cannot be tolerated any longer.

Almond blossom time

IT NOW EMERGES that the ten days of sunshine and clear blue skies in which Israelis revelled were misleading: spring is not near at hand, winter apparently has every intention of hanging around for months to come.

All Israeli patriots will grit their teeth and put on their winter garb without regrets, because they know that the more we suffer from the cold, the more rain we will get. By journey's end, they hope, the water table will be restored, the coastal wells will not be saline, the level of Lake Kinneret may have risen to its optimum level — 209 m. — even if we have to endure icy winds, pouring rain and dislocations in the telephonic and electrical services to obtain these highly desired objectives.

Perhaps misled by the sunshine, perhaps because they know something we don't know, all the almond trees are suddenly in bloom. All over the hills the lovely white blossoms are transforming the landscape and lifting up the eyes and hearts of men.

Tu B'Shvat, the new year of the trees, is still three weeks ahead, but that does not seem to have daunted the almond trees. Out they have come in all their glory. Looking at them, and sensing the way the earth renews itself each year, Israelis can forget security affairs, workers, strikes, economic crunches and partisan quarrels.

The message of the almond blossom is that these ills are ephemeral: the earth abideth forever.

Peace process edging to war

Benny Morris

ALMOST IMPERCEPTIBLY, the peace process has taken a severe beating during the past few months. Talk of a "standstill" or "freeze" in the process is wrong and misleading: there has been substantial retrogression since former prime minister Peres and Egyptian President Mubarak met in Alexandria last September. Indeed, looking back, it would be difficult to point to any concrete advance in the process (aside from a great deal of idle and wishful chatter) since the pan-Arab rejection of the Camp David autonomy concept and the signing of the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty in 1979.

The process has been bogged down over two vital issues, which are external manifestations of the basic political difference between Israel and its neighbours — all its neighbours — regarding the main features of a final peace settlement: The idea of an international peace conference as the forum in which a settlement would be hammered out; and the problem of Palestinian representation.

U.S. Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, who last week toured the region for the umpteenth time, proved unable, according to reports and in line with universal expectations, to overcome these obstacles or in any way bridge the Arab-Israeli divide.

He must have felt the deterioration that has set in since the Alexandria summit. For at that summit, Peres and Mubarak agreed that, given the circumstances and the starting positions of the protagonists, the only realistic avenue to a settlement led through the convocation and functioning of an international conference.

MOREOVER, without prior consultation with, or consent from, Jordan's King Hussein, the two leaders agreed that the ground-rules for the conference should be formulated and the conference itself launched by a "preparatory committee," whose constitution was deliberately left vague.

Since then, Jordan has made it absolutely clear that it opposes the idea of such a committee, which it regards as an Israeli attempt to smuggle in "direct, face-to-face negotiations" by the back door.

The only type of preparatory committee Jordan might countenance would undoubtedly include PLO and Soviet representatives — raising the same problems of constitution as the

actual conference. So why bother with it? Better to skip the committee stage and tackle the convocation of the conference straight off.

Besides, since September Washington has generally dismissed the whole international conference concept as "unattractive," to use Murphy's word. The White House hard-liners oppose awarding the Soviets a role in Middle East peace-making (or, for that matter, in any other endeavour in the region).

Peres's aides in Jerusalem speak of "ambivalence" or two schools of thought in Washington regarding an international conference. "They have not yet made up their minds," they say.

Maybe they are right. But meanwhile, as far as the U.S. is concerned the conference idea is in the freezer, if not actually in the morgue.

IT OCCUPIES a similar habitat as far as post-rotation Israel is concerned. For Israel's main voice is the prime minister's, and that means the voice of Yitzhak Shamir.

Shamir nowadays takes every opportunity to appear the moderate, flexible, worldly statesman. Not he the Likud backwoodsman, the blood-curdling Lehi chief of operations. He will never be caught saying explicitly: "Not one centimetre, not one inch." As part of the game, he will even occasionally hint that territorial compromise is not altogether inconceivable: "Who knows how Israeli-Arab negotiations could end."

In general, he will speak vaguely enough to soothe the ears of Western visitors, and never commit himself to a position or phrase that will enable a Gush Cohen or a Rafael Eitan to pin on him a charge of apostasy or heresy.

But throughout the post-rotation period, as if smelling where the real pitfall may be, Shamir has carefully stressed to all and sundry that an international conference is "pointless" and would be "dangerous" to Israel. He opposes, and therefore Israel opposes, such a conference. As for the "preparatory committee," Shamir has never mentioned it and presumably gives it no thought at all.

AS IF THIS were not enough, that champion of the multilateral dialogue, Shimon Peres, since rotating from premier to foreign minister, has trimmed his sails to conform with American and Likud utterances. He rarely speaks of an "international

READERS' LETTERS

PRIMARY RECONSTRUCTION

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — I am quite surprised at the number of women I meet in Israel who have had mastectomies without any type of reconstruction. I have recently undergone a mastectomy in the United States with primary reconstruction, i.e. an implant is inserted at the time the breast is removed.

Where this is indicated, there are distinct advantages. It involves one surgical procedure and therefore one anesthetic procedure. The duration of the surgery is approximately the same, as well as the hospital stay. Most important, the patient wakes up with a breast in place and is spared the anguish and depression of an unsightly scar and a void in her anatomy.

Primary reconstruction with mastectomy does not mask recurrence

nor interfere with therapy. When such a procedure is planned by the surgeon with a plastic surgeon, there is proper strategy for skin utilization and incision placement.

All of the women I have spoken to who have not undergone reconstructive surgery suffer silently for years. They dread an additional surgical experience and many are even discouraged from this by their doctors. Today, primary reconstruction is a recognized and accepted procedure. It is the general surgeon's responsibility to inform the patient of this option at the time he gives her the shocking news of "cancer" and "mastectomy." In my opinion, anything less is a sin of omission and the patient should request this procedure.

DEBBY NEWMAN
Tel Aviv.

THE EXAMPLE COMES FROM THE TOP

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — There is an element of hypocrisy in the recent bout of villification of Bank Leumi, its ex-managing director, and directorate by members of the Knesset. Their main complaint is that heads of public institutions should not take advantage of their position to allot themselves or their colleagues exaggerated privileges.

These same members of Knesset reserve for themselves the right to more than one salary (by running private businesses); pensions at any

age with 4 per cent per year as against 2 per cent for ordinary people who reach pensionable age; the right to be absent from their job for any period of time with no accounting; and a whole lot of immunities and benefits totally unconnected with their job.

Before the members of the Knesset throw stones at Bank Leumi, they should look into their own glass house and see where the example comes from.

SHIFRA TAREM
Ashkelon.

PENFRIENDS

HUSTIC DARKO (19), of Vojak 51, 41218 Pregrada, Yugoslavia, would like to have Israeli pen-friends. He collects stamps and picture postcards and likes music and movies.

J. M. COHN
(Balliol, 1982-5)

OXBRIDGE

To the Editor of The Jerusalem Post
Sir, — With reference to your news report of January 9, "Navon lashes Ne'eman for attack on Abie's ship," the students of Oxford, and not of Cambridge, voted that they would not fight for king and country. Nor was it the entire student body, but the Oxford Union Society. Nor was it the late 1930s, but the early 1930s.

Most offensive remains the usual confusion of Oxbridge for a homogeneous mess.

J. M. COHN
(Balliol, 1982-5)

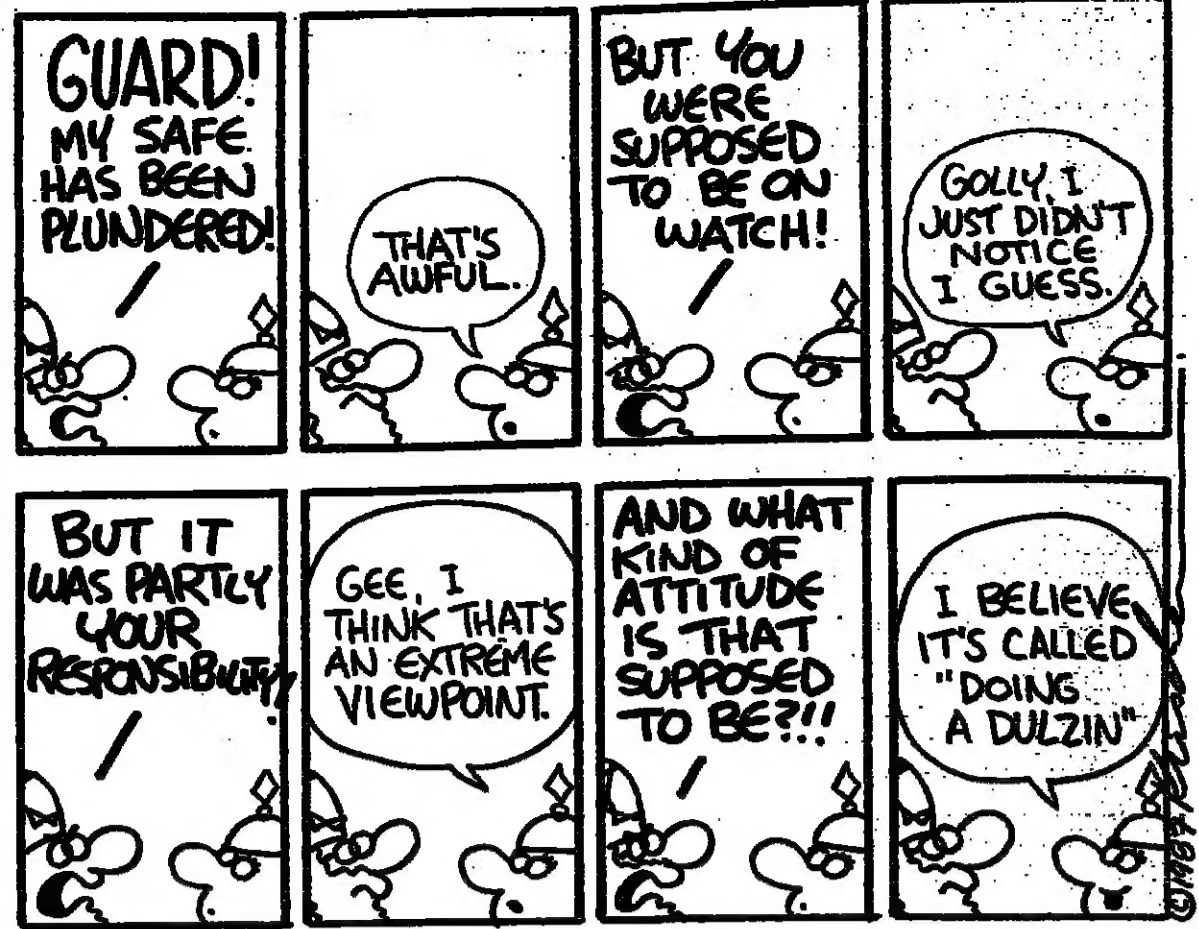
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The Friday Dry Bones



conference" and never before an Israeli audience.

Occasionally, he will slip in a reference to an "international forum," quickly qualifying it with the reservation that, of course, the forum would accompany and not replace direct Israeli-Arab negotiations and would have no power in shaping the contours of the final settlement. And he, too, bowing to Jordanian sensibilities, now rarely if ever mentions the "preparatory committee."

So, since September Israel has moved from a "preparatory committee" and an "international conference" back to square one — first posted by the Israeli government in 1948-49; direct, face-to-face negotiations — which, theoretically, is fine but the Arabs won't buy it.

The media, one should note, hardly even mentioned Shamir's call to Hussein 10 days ago to meet "face to face." If Hussein has (publicly) avoided doing so since 1953, why should he do so now?

RETROGRESSION has set in with regard not only to an international conference but also to Palestinian representation. Both Egypt and Jordan refuse to join any multilateral negotiation concerning the future of the Palestinians without "authentic" Palestinian representation.

For them, despite their contempt for, and differences with, PLO chairman Yasser Arafat, that representation is the PLO. Israel refuses to negotiate with the PLO or to countenance its participation in any multilateral gathering.

So years have been spent discussing Palestinian representation which would be at once PLO but non-PLO.

As prime minister, Peres a year or two ago hit upon the formula of "authentic" Palestinians, who were not PLO executive committee members but who broadly represented the mainstream PLO viewpoint and would be acceptable to the PLO as its unofficial representatives, at least in an early stage of the negotiations.

Peres named Gaza lawyer Faez Abu Rahme and Al-Fajr editor Hana Siniara as two such "authentic" Palestinians acceptable to Israel.

Last week, Defence Minister Rabin, when all is said and done the Likud's most dependable ally in the national unity government, barred Faez Abu Rahme (and former Hebron mayor Mustafa Natshe) from attending an Israeli-American-Arab peace symposium at San Diego State University in California.

Various Labour stalwarts — among them Abba Eban, and Ora Namir — protested. The U.S. "made representations." But not a peep of dissent was heard from Peres.

It was suggested that Rabin had acted in line with a Jordanian request. Hussein didn't want Abu Rahme and Natshe visiting America, supporting the PLO and bad-mouthing the Hashemite kingdom.

That story may or may not be true. And no doubt, future unpleasant measures which are part of Rabin's "iron fist" policy will in future conveniently be attributed to Jordanian prompting. However, the upshot of the Abu Rahme-Natshe ban, for all practical purposes, is that Peres's "authentic Palestinians" formula has been buried. For if Peres couldn't assure Abu Rahme and Natshe exit permits to attend an important talk-shop in California, how can he be expected to persuade Shamir and Rabin to bow to such Palestinian representation at highly consequential peace talks?

Any whiff of the PLO is enough to get the Israeli leadership, Shamir, Peres and Rabin (the so-called three prime ministers' club) gagging. And even if Peres is more open to a compromise formula than his partners in government, he apparently dare not fight over it. He probably fears unpopularity and the potential vote loss in the next general elections more than the split it might engender in Labour.

But without authentic Palestinian representation, implying PLO men, there will be no multilateral peace talks, as Jordan and Egypt have made clear and as Peres (at least, and possibly Shamir) by now understands.

It is probably no accident that nothing was said about the issue of Palestinian representation in the reporting of Murphy's swing around the Middle East. No progress could have been made and, most likely,

Murphy quickly discovered that the rotation in Jerusalem has in fact initiated a major regression in this field.

SO THE PEACE process withers. Israel highlights last year's appointment of the Arab mayors, the new Jordanian participation in West Bank economic development and the establishment of the Arab bank branch in Nabulus as signs of an emergent bi-national "functional condominium" in the territories.

But the realities of military occupation under Rabin — with its university closures, expulsions, administrative detentions, all more or less stopped during the Begin years, and the Palestinian responses in the form of knifings and stonings — all underline the deterioration of the quality of life in the territories in the past two years. This undoubtedly stokes the fires of belligerence. The Middle East stage is once again being readied for war.

Peres's aides occasionally say: We know there can be no substantial progress towards peace so long as Israel is governed by a unity government. But we must keep alive the trappings and voices of peace, displaying at least the semblance of pacific goodwill, in order to leave the way open for a real resumption of the peace process if Labour wins the next elections in less than two years time. Wars, say the Peres aides, occur more easily when the atmosphere is noisy and belligerent; their outbreak is restrained by an atmosphere of peace.

But Syria, the PLO, the Hizbullah, and perhaps even Jordan, may not be running on the Peres timetable. Syria's President Assad will probably move when his armies are ready, whether or not Murphy is in the region, whether or not Peres trots out a new list of "authentic" Palestinians.

A real peace process, with negotiations holding out the promise — to the Palestinians, Jordan and Syria — of concrete gains as part of a general settlement, might stay the hand of war. The shabby, tattered trappings on display at the moment will probably prove insufficient.

The writer is Diplomatic Correspondent of The Jerusalem Post.



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